MODERN IRISH GRAMMAR

J. P. CRAIG.

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MODERN

IRISH GRAMMAR

BY

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SEALY, BRYERS & WALKER

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TO

THE MOST REV. DR. O'DONNELL,

LORD BISHOP OF RAPHOE,

THIS BOOK

IS

GRATEFULLY DEDICATED.

1650

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PREFACE

THIS book is specially intended to meet the requirements of students studying for the Intermediate, University, and other Examinations. It is a Grammar of the living language of our land as I have known it from my cradle, and which has been the constant study of my life. Although it is pre-eminently the language of old Tirconaill, it is none the less the language of Ireland; for, the Northern element over the general construction of our mother tongue—which is universally the same—is scarcely perceptible. In writing this Grammar, therefore, my principal object, and I might say my only labour, lay, not in showing forth Northern usage, but in perfecting the general rules of Irish grammar.

A perusal of the following chapters will show that I have explained the subject more fully, and in a more up-to-date style than other writers, and that I have brought to light several things which have simply been passed over by previous grammarians.

LETTERKENNY,
January, 1900.

INTRODUCTORY.

If we wish to preserve our mother tongue, we must write it as it is spoken in the glen and on the hill-side. No doubt the past of our beautiful language, may be purer and greater than the present, but that does not concern us; that is a matter for philologists. We have no time just now for studying its past greatness. We love what remains of it, corrupted, if you like, though it may be. We love it because we lisped it in childhood; we venerate it because it falls from the lips of the old people like a soothing balm, and, as long as it lasts, we will cling to it. Anything else is but artificial, and can never have real life as a medium of speech. The revival of the language of our ancestors, in any shape or form, would be a noble work; but this must be a secondary consideration. We are at present concerned with the sweet tongue with which we ourselves are familiar. We must begin here. When we shall have mastered so much, we shall then consider the past of our language.

We must not sacrifice the life of the language to please the critic and the philologist. "If the language is to be preserved at all," writes a correspondent of the *Derry Journal*, "it is the public who will do

so, and not a few individuals who aspire to cultured excellence. The old house has become almost dilapidated, evidences of decay are plainly discernible. How are we to restore and preserve it? Is it by exhibiting a picture of its former beauty? No, surely not. Hence, what remains to us of the old language should be the basis and the medium of all future efforts to preserve, utilise, extend, and finally beautify its dialect."

Some of those connected with the Gaelic movement are of opinion that the Irish spoken at the present day is not good enough. They insist on having pure Irish or none at all. Hence, they are determined to root out all corruptions, and supply the deficiency from the cob-webs of the past. Every word that sounds in any way like English must be weeded out of the dictionary! Cat, a cat, ṗac, a sack, litir, a letter, ṗóṙ, a rose, ṗóṗa, a rope, and hundreds of other real Irish words, would, of course, have to be sacrificed! If the language was dead such a thing might be possible, but as it still lives, our inclinations will be to cling to it with all its imperfections. And this is but natural: All living languages change with time, and if these changes are corruptions, the English language, the greatest of living languages, must be very corrupt indeed. Yet the English people are proud of their language, corruptions and all.

The spoken language should, therefore, be scrupu-

lously followed at first, and no wholesale changes should be made till the language has taken proper root; and even then we must proceed with the greatest care, in other words, the language must be improved gradually, or else we shall be building so many "castles in the air," which must eventually end in smoke. We must respect those of our people who still speak the old tongue by teaching them to read and write what they are sure to take an interest in; and the best way to do this is to lay the grammar of their own language before them in a coaxing form.

It is pretty evident that those who would build the language on the classics have the interest of the philologist more at heart than the rescuing of a dying language. What a disgrace it would be, if hereafter, men found flaws in the language of Erin! What nonsense! If we let our mother tongue perish the philologists of the world will have reason to smile at our Irish pride. The arguments put forward in favour of the classic method are very childish. Here is one: "An English grammar is not based on the usage of Yorkshire, or Lancashire, or Cornwall." This is, of course, a false comparison: Modern English is of two kinds: (1) Standard modern English, which is spoken, and admitted in all parts of England, and (2) modern English dialect, which is spoken only in certain parts of the country. Modern Irish, on the other hand, has only

the dialects. We have no standard of modern Irish which would be admitted universally. Hence, before we can compare, in this manner, modern English with modern Irish, we must first draw a veil, so to speak, over standard modern English, and imagine the English language consisted simply of the three dialects of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cornwall. "But," it is persisted, "what would be said if one proposed to write *eatin*, *sittin*, *bein*, for *eating*, *sitting*, *being*, *an*, for *and*, *seen* for *saw*, &c., basing the proposal on popular usage?" If we had no standard of modern English the proposal would be a very natural one.

If we go back to the fourteenth century we shall find the English language in much the same state as our Irish of the present day. There were three dialects, the Northern, the Midland, and the Southern. "As far back as the beginning of the thirteenth century, the Midland dialect, which afterwards became the standard language, was cultivated as a literary dialect, and had then thrown off most of the older inflections." This does not look like building on the classics.

I agree with most others of the Gaelic movement that unity should be preserved as much as possible, even in the beginning. Irish is divided into three dialects, which differ pretty considerably in some respects. It is certain, however, that these differences are somewhat exaggerated, no doubt by

those who have made the written language the study of their lives. In Munster, for example, the ending ıʊ is not heard in the dative plural of nouns, although we are expected to believe that such is generally the case. In the nominative plural, however, it is often heard. I have heard ꝑeaꞇaıʊ, mnaıʊ, and ɒuaıʊ used as nominatives. In Connaught, just as in Ulster, ıʊ is not heard, the dative plural being exactly like the nominative plural. It is, therefore, very foolish, as well as detrimental to the growth of a modern standard, to persist in using this classic ending, which, evidently exists only in the imaginations of a few learned men.

The analytic forms of the verb are understood everywhere. Most of the synthetic forms, on the other hand, are by no means universally understood; and as we can easily get along without these latter, it is but natural that we should not put them forward as standard modern Irish—of course, I do not mean the synthetic forms that are universally used. Hence, at the present vital moment, we must use the forms that will be understood by, and pleasing to all parties.

Besides ɔo, ɔe, ʒan and ıɔıꞃ, the preposition ann, in Munster, very often aspirates instead of eclipsing in the dative singular when the article is used; aꞃ and ō are inclined to do the same. In Ulster, a preposition, as a general rule, never

eclipses in the dative case when the article is used, thus simplifying the rules of aspiration and eclipsis, which appear to be such a terror to students. In the South of Ireland, therefore, do, de, gan, faoi, ann, and ó—that is, nearly all the simple prepositions of any importance—follow the same rule as that of Ulster. Considering these facts, not to say anything about simplicity, there is a strong plea for making aspiration the general rule.

It must be pretty clear to most people who are interested in the study of their mother tongue, that the absence of proper books of instruction is the greatest drawback. Up to the present we have had no suitable grammar of modern Irish. The Dictionary is still coming, and in the meantime Intermediate students, in the absence of vocabularies, may throw aside their text books. I believe that it is this state of affairs, and not a mere matter of marks, that keeps many a student from entering for Irish. We want a complete student's dictionary at a reasonable price, say five shillings; and we want text books to have vocabularies and notes instead of the proverbial translation. For elementary education we require a series of graduated primers, and when these are in readiness it will be our duty to insist on having the national language taught in the so-called "National" Schools.

The accomplishment of these things would very soon necessitate the establishing of newspapers. But

until then, a newspaper would be like a chimney on a bean-stalk. We may bolster it up and puff it up as much as we like, but it is sure to come down, an inglorious wreck, in the end. When the time has come to float our paper, it should be written exclusively in simple modern Irish. For example, we could write the entire paper with simple Irish like that found in Father O'Growney's Simple Lessons. Classic material should be carefully excluded, and English or any other foreign tongue should not find a corner in it. A paper composed of modern Irish, classic Irish, Irish grammar, and philology—explained through the medium of English—and nearly two-thirds of its pages in English besides, cannot be called an Irish newspaper. The existence of such a phenomenon would prove plainly that we do not understand our own language. and that we are not ready for an Irish newspaper.

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MODERN IRISH GRAMMAR.

The Alphabet.

Irish. Cap.	Irish. Small.	English.	Name.	Irish. Cap.	Irish. Small.	English.	Name.
A	a	a	ailm	L	l	l	luis
B	b	b	beith	M	m	m	muin
C	c	k	coll	N	n	n	nuin
D	d	d	dair	O	o	o	oir
E	e	e	éadha	P	p	p	peith
F	f	f	fearn	R	r	r	ruis
G	g	g	gort	S	s	s	suil
H	h	h	uath	T	t	t	teine
I	i	i	iodha	U	u	u	ur

OBS.—As may be seen above, there are but eighteen letters in the Irish Alphabet. In writing foreign names, however, we may use others. Thus, Keating writes Maximus, Maximus. The *names* of the letters given above are not used now. They are the names of trees, but only four of them are modern, viz., beith, birch; coll, hazel, dair, oak, and fearn, or fearnog, elder. The others are as follows:—ailm, palm; éadha, aspen; gort, ivy; uath, white-thorn; iodha, the yew; luis, quicken tree; muin, vine; nuin, ash; oir, the spindle tree; peith, unknown; ruis, elder; suil, willow; teine, furze; ur, the yew.

Classification of the Letters.

There are five vowels, which may be classified as follows :—

(1) Broad, or thick vowels : a, o, u.
(2) Thin, or slender vowels : e, i.
(3) Long vowels : á, ó, ú, é, í.
(4) Short vowels : a, o, u, e, i.

A consonant may be broad or slender according as it has contact with a broad or a slender vowel. For example, the b in ban is thick or broad, but in beag it is thin or slender. The same often happens in English, *e.g.*, ball, bat; fall, fan, &c.

Sounds of the Vowels.

a	is pronounced like	*a* in *fat.*	Ex.	cat.
á	,,	*a* ,, *far.*	,,	bád.
e	,,	*e* ,, *get.*	,,	uirge.
é	,,	*e* ,, *grey.*	,,	gé.
i	,,	*i* ,, *it.*	,,	min.
í	,,	*i* ,, *marine.*	,,	mín.
o	,,	*o* ,, *for.*	,,	cor.
ó	,,	*o* ,, *form**	,,	glór.
u	,,	*u* ,, *fully.*	,,	luch.
ú	,,	*u* ,, *truly.*	,,	lúb.

* There are many exceptions to this rule. In the following, for example, the ó is pronounced like *o* in *go* :—mór, brón, frón, rón, lón, tón, rómham, móin, móna, cómhra cómhaidhe, comhar, cómhnuidhe, Dómhnach, dómhain, Dómhnall, thaitnóna, fóghmar, rómhaidhm, tógaim, rónfuighim, tómhairim, &c., &c.

Sounds of the Diphthongs.

ae is pronounced like *ay* in day. Ex., tae.
ao " *ea* " *real.* " bpaon.
ua " *ue* " *cruel.* " cuan.
eo, eó " *ya* " *yawn.* " ceó, beó.
ia, ía " *ea* " *dear.* " piad.
eu, éu " *ea* " *early.* " beul, pgeul

N.B.—These diphthongs are always long.

ai is pronounced like *a* in *crag.* Ex., cpaiceann
oi, ui " *u* " *rush.* " coill, cuipte.
ei " *e* " *let* " cleite.
io " *i* " *pit* " miotog.
ea " *a* " *fan.* " peap.

N.B.—In words like teat, deap, the e has a short *y* sound.

ái is pronounced like *a* in *rations.* Ex., páipde.
ói " *awi* in *cawing* " cóipte.
ui " *ewi* " jewish " puipte.
éi " *ei* " *feign* " péipe.
ío " *e* " *me* " míopa.
éa " *ea* " *bear* " péap.
aí is pronounced like *i* in *marine.* Ex., pléataí.
iú " *u* " *cure* " diúltaim.
eá " *a* " *car* " ceápta.

Aoi, eoi, iui, iai, &c., are attenuated forms of the long diphthongs ao, eo, &c.

Sounds of the Consonants.

b broad	is pronounced like	*b*	in *ball.*	Ex. bád.
b slender	„	*b*	„ *bat.*	„ beann.
c broad	„	*c*	„ *cut.*	„ cu.
c slender	„	*k*	„ *king.*	„ cé.
f broad	„	*f*	„ *fall.*	„ fág.
f slender	„	*f*	„ *fan.*	„ fear.
g broad	„	*g*	„ *gum.*	„ gorm.
g slender	„	*g*	„ *gas.*	„ geamhan.
m broad	„	*m*	„ *maul.*	„ mór.
m slender	„	*m*	„ *mill.*	„ miotog.
p broad	„	*p*	„ *Paul*	„ putog.
p slender	„	*p*	„ *pet.*	„ peirteog
d slender	„	*d*	„ *duty.*	„ díle.
t slender	„	*t*	„ *tune.*	„ tinn.
r slender	„	*sh*	„ —	„ rleog, rinn
h is pronounced as in English.				„ hata.

N.B.—d, t, and r, broad, cannot be represented in English. Ex., dún, tóg, rál.

l, ll.

(1) Initial l broad cannot be represented in English. Ex., lub.

Initial l slender is like *l* in *valiant.* Ex., leanb.

(2) In all other cases l is pronounced as in English. Ex., beatach, coileach, focal, full.

(3) ll broad cannot be represented in English. Ex., ball, balla.

ll slender is like *l* in *valiant.* Ex., caill, caillead.

n. nn.

(1) Initial n broad cannot be rep. in Eng. Ex., náine.

Initial n slender is like *n* in *new*. Ex., neart.

(2) After ai, oi, ui, n final is like *n* in *new*. Ex. ainm, móin, muin.

(3) In all other cases n is pronounced as in English. Ex., anam, inis, aran, cailín.

(4) nn broad cannot be represented in English. Ex., beann, beannacht.

nn slender is like *n* in *new*. Ex., tinn, tinneas.

ḋ, ġ, adḋa, aġa, abḋa.

(1) The letters ḋ, ġ, are not sounded in the body, or at the end of a word, but they lengthen the vowel that immediately precedes them, and often silencing a following one.

Cruaiḋ	pronounced	crúaíḋ	*i.e.*	*croo'-ee.*
Croíḋe	„	croíḋe	„	*cree.*
Ḃoḋar	„	bóṙ	„	*boar.*
Uaiġ	„	úaíġ	„	*oo'ee.*
Ḃruiġ	„	bruíġ	„	*broo'ee.*

(2) adḋa and aġa are pronounced like *ay* in *day*.

adḋarc pronounced éirc *i.e.* *ayrc.*

aġaiḋ „ éi „ *ay'-ee.*

(3) abḃa is usually pronounced like *o* in *go*. Ex, abḃainn, leabḃar, tabḃairt.

aḋ, aṁ, aḃ.

(1) In many words, especially in verbs, aḋ final is pronounced like *oo* in *fool*, or like ú in túḃ. Aṁ and aḃ final have also this sound.

Róraḋ	pronounced	poirú.
Searaḋ	„	fearú.
Marcaḋ	„	marcú.
Madaḋ	„	madú.
Folaṁ	„	folú.
Sliaḃ	„	fliú.

(2) In monosyllabic words ṁ and ḃ (without a) have this sound.

Lámh	pronounced	la-ú.
Cnaṁ	„	cnáu.
Tarḃ	„	tarú.
Leanḃ	„	lean-ú.

N.B.—For initial sounds of aspirated consonants, see Aspiration.

Attenuation.

A broad consonant may be made slender by a process called *Attenuation*. This is done by putting i immediately *before*, or e immediately *after* the broad consonant. Thus to attenuate the n of ḃan, we get ḃain; but if we attenuate the ḃ we get ḃean.

Broadening.

A slender consonant may be made broad by putting u immediately before, or a immediately after the consonant. Thus, to broaden the g in droigh, we get droughg, but to broaden the g in gim we get gaim. To broaden the final consonant in words like caith, buail, cuir, &c., drop the i—cath, bual, cur, &c.

THE RULE "CAOL LE CAOL."

A consonant, or a group of consonants in the body of a word, must lie between either two slender, or two broad vowels. In bratog, the t lies between two broad vowels, but in eiteog, it lies between two slender ones.

When, in the natural construction of a word, this rule would be violated, the two vowels in question must be made to harmonize by means of attenuation and broadening. In English, for example, *cold+ness* gives *coldness*, and *hill+ock* gives *hillock;* but in Irish, flat+in is not flatin, but flaitin; peirt+og is not peirtog, but peirteog; tog+im is not togim, but togaim; finn+fa is not finnfa, but finnfea, &c.

This rule is called "Caol le caol agus leathan le leathan;" that is "Slender to slender and broad to broad." The reason of this rule is plain: A consonant cannot be broad and slender at the same time. But if we wrote tog+im, togim, the g, having contact with o and i, should be broad and also slender, which, of course, is absurd.

Aspiration.

Aspiration is the softening, and, in some cases, the suppression, of the sound of an initial consonant. The aspirable consonants are ḃ, ċ, ḋ, ḟ, ġ, ṁ, ṗ, ṙ, and ṫ. When aspirated they are written ḃ, ċ, ḋ, ḟ, ġ, ṁ, ṗ, ṙ, ṫ. Capitals are sometimes written, Ḃh, Ch, Ḋh, etc., instead of Ḃ, Ċ, Ḋ, &c.

In	ḃán	ḃ has the sound of	*w*
„	ḃinn	ḃ „	*v*
„	ṁuc	ṁ „	*w*
„	ṁic	ṁ „	*v*
„	ṗáipic	ṗ „	*f*
„	ċoṙ	ċ „	*h*
„	ṙac	ṙ „	*h*
„	ṙlat	ṙ is silent.	
„	ḟeaṙ	ḟ is silent.	

Hence, in the beginning of a word,

ḃ and ṁ broad are sounded like		*w*
ḃ and ṁ slender	„	*v*
ṗ always	„	*f*
ċ „	„	*h*
ṙ+vowel	„	*h*
ṙ+l, n, or ṙ, is silent		
ḟ generally silent.		

N.B.—ċ, ḋ, ġ, and ṫ followed by a consonant, cannot be represented in English. A soft gutteral breathing will produce these sounds. They are very like the sound of the Greek letter χ (*chi*).

Eclipsis.

Eclipsis is the suppression of the sound of an initial consonant by means of another, placed before it. All the aspirable consonants, except m, can be eclipsed, and each has its own eclipsing letter.

m-bádh pronounced mádh where b is eclipsed.

g-cat	„	gat	„	c	„
n-dorus	„	norus	„	d	„
bh-fear	„	bhean	„	f	„
b-páirc	„	báirc	„	p	„
t-rúil	„	túil	„	r	„
d-tarbh	„	dabh	„	t	„
n-gort	„	ngort	„	ng	blend.

N.B.—In the case of g no real eclipsis takes place. s is never eclipsed except in the singular number of nouns.

Gender of Nouns.

(1) All nouns generally having their final consonant broad are masculine, as, bádh, arán, tinneas, cáirdeas, etc. Except :—cor, lámh, bróg, pós, gruag, cuach, cíor, cluas, breug, feasg, cloch, rlat, pían, gaoth, rgian, cruach, etc., which are feminine.

(2) Abstract nouns in e or acht are feminine, as, áilne, beauty, milreacht, sweetness.

(3) Diminutives in an are masculine, as, árdan, a hillock.

(4) Diminutives in og are feminine, as, bábog, a doll.

(5) Diminutives in ín are of the same gender as the nouns from which they are formed; as, cnoicín (*m.*), coipín (*f.*)

(6) The names of rivers are feminine, as, an Bóinn, the Boyne.

(7) The names of males are masculine, as, fear, a man, ſtáit, a stallion, coileać, a cock.

(8) The names of females are feminine, as, bean, a woman, cailín, a girl, capall, a mare, ceaſc, a hen.

OBS.—Cailín is influenced by the article as if it were masculine, just in the same way as teaċ (*m.*) is declined like a feminine noun. Capall, like muc, is common gender.

DECLENSIONS.

Declension of the Article.

	SINGULAR.		PLURAL.
	mas.	*fem.*	*mas. and fem.*
Nom. & Acc.	an,	an, the	na, the
Genitive	an,	na, of the	na, of the
Dative	an,	an, the	na, the

N.B—There is no indefinite article. Hence bó means "cow" or "a cow."

First Declension.

(*a*) Masculine nouns ending with a broad consonant are of the first declension. The genitive singular is formed by attenuating the final consonant. Example, bád, a boat.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. & A.	bád, a boat.	báid, boats.
Gen.	báid, of a boat.	bád, of boats.
Dat.	bád, a boat.	báid,* boats.
Voc.	a bháid! O boat!	a bháda! O boats!

(*b*) Nouns in ach (monosyllabics excepted) change ċ into ġ where attenuation occurs. Ex., bacach, a beggar.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. & A.	bacach, a beggar.	bacaig, beggars.
Gen.	bacaig, of a beggar.	bacach, of beggars.
Dat.	bacach, a beggar.	bacaig, beggars.
Voc.	a bhacaig! O beggar!	a bhacacha!. O beggars!

N.B.—Note that a is the sign of the vocative and causes aspiration.

Examples for Declension.

arán, bread.
ardán, a hillock.
amadán, a fool.
asal, an ass.
ramhrán, a primrose.
gealbhan, a sparrow.
deatan, a spark, a match.
geamhan, a horse.
sruthán, a brook.
riocan, frost.

brúgach, a farmer.
tócach, a young man.
beatach, a way.
bhollach, a bosom.
eudach, cloth.
eallach, cattle.
síonach, a fox. †
treabhlach, a family.
boglach, wet weather.
portach, a bog.

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* In the written language we find the dative plural of *nouns* ending in ibh.

† This is the correct *modern* spelling. We find it often written sionnach in books.

ſalann, salt.
uaiſgan, a yearling sheep.
deaſgan, a knitting-needle.
biorán, a pin.
ſmólan, a thrush.
feileocan, a butterfly.
Samhradh, Summer.
Fóghmar, Autumn.
Geimhreadh, Winter.
Earrach, Spring.
ogánach, a lad, a rogue.
máirneálach, a sailor.
bitheamhnach, a rascal.
cládach, a seashore.
ualach, a burden.
talamh, ground, land.
Eireannach, an Irishman.
Sasanach, an Englishman.
Fraincach, a Frenchman.

(*c*) To form the genitive of nouns in each, and of derivatives in ear, change the characteristic ea into i. [The characteristic vowel is the last vowel in the nominative case of nouns.]

coileach, a cock.	gen.	coiligh.
oifigeach, an officer	„	oifigigh.
tinneas, sickness	„	tinnis.
faiteas, shyness	„	faitis.

(*d*) All other words of this declension having ea for characteristic either form their genitive like the preceding class or change ea into ei. The following change ea into i:—

airgeann, a mass	gen.	airgin.
airgead, money	„	airgid.
breac, a trout	„	bric.
ceann, a head	„	cinn.
fear, a man	„	fir
ghleann, fun	„	ghlinn.
claigeann, a skull	„	claigin.
craiceann, skin, rind	„	craicinn

Also fíot, seed gen. fít.
tíon, flax, net „ tín.
mac, a son „ mic.

(*e*) The following change ea into ei :—

féar,* grass, hay gen. féir.
méar,* a finger „ méir.
béal,* a mouth „ béil.
cineal, kind, species „ cineil.
cairtean, a castle „ cairtein.
iarg, fish, a fish „ éirg.
ciabh, a creel, bosom „ ciéibh.

(*f*) Some nouns change the characteristic into ui. They usually end in two consonants.

corp, a body gen. cuirp.
bolg, a belly „ builg.
tarbh, a bull „ tuirbh
molt, a wether „ muilt.
dorn, a fist „ duirn.
cnoc, a hill „ cnuic.
sac, a sack „ fuic.
cat, a cat „ cuit.

(*g*) The following are irregular in the nominative plural :—

focal, a word gen. focail pl. focla.
deór, a drop „ deoir „ deóra.
peann, a pen „ pinn „ peanna.
múr, a rampart „ múir „ múrcha.
dorus, a door „ dorais „ dorsa.

* More usually feur, meur, beul.

aingeal, an angel	gen.	aingil	pl.	aingle.
tobar, a well	„	tobair	„	tobraca.
garún, a boy	„	garúin	„	garraí.
rgeul,* a story	„	rgéil	„	rgeultaí.
gleann, a glen	„	gleanna	„	gleanntaí.
ceól, music	„	ceóil	„	ceóltaí.
reól, a sail	„	reóil	„	reóltaí.
úball, an apple	„	uball	„	úblaí.
leabar, a book	„	leabair	„	leabhraidhtaí.

Second Declension.

(*a*) The nouns of this declension are, with very few exceptions, feminine. The genitive singular is formed by adding e, which is sometimes called *the slender increase,* to the nominative singular. The dative singular is got by dropping the final e of the genitive, so that the final consonant of this case will be always slender. The nominative plural ends in a or e according as the characteristic vowel is broad or slender. Ex. bróg, a shoe, rúil, an eye.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. & A.	bróg, a shoe.	bróga, shoes.
Gen.	bróige, of a shoe.	bróg, of shoes.
Dat.	bróig, a shoe.	bróga, shoes.
Voc.	a bróig! O shoe!	a bróga! O shoes!

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* geul is used for *tidings;* it is sometimes written rgeula, and then means *word* or *message.* So de 'n rgeul agat? What news? Cuir rgeula cuige. Send him word.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. & A.	ſúil, an eye.	ſúile, eyes.
Gen.	ſúile, of an eye.	ſúil, of eyes.
Dat.	ſúil, an eye.	ſúile, eyes.
Voc.	a ſúil, O eye.	a ſúile, O eyes.

N.B.—Nouns declined like bſóg and ſúil are for the most part monosyllabic words.

Examples for Declension.

coſ, a foot.	bſeug (*gen.* bſéige), a lie.
cloċ, a stone.	cíoſ (*g.* cíſe), a comb.
ſéiſ, a festival.	ceaſc (*g.* ciſce), a hen.
láṁ, a hand.	beann (*g.* béinne) a mountain peak.
caile, chalk.	gſuag (*g.* gſuaige), hair.
póg, a kiss.	cſeag, (*g.* cſéige), a crag.
muc, a pig.	ſgiaċ (*g.* ſgeiċe), a shield.
cſoċ, a gibbet.	gſian (*g.* gſéine), the sun.
cſoſ, a cross.	cſeaċ (*g.* cſéiċe), plunder.
cluaſ, an ear.	feaſg (*g.* feiſge), anger.
pluc, a cheek.	ſgian (*g.* ſgeine), a knife.
cill, a church.	geug (*g.* géige), a branch.
aġaiḋ, a face.	ſplanc, a spark, a thunderbolt.
gaoċ, wind	cuaċ, a cuckoo, a ringlet.
niṁ, poison.	neaṁ (*g.* neiṁe), heaven.
uḃ or uiḃ, an egg.	teaċ (*g.* tiġe), a house (*m*).

(*b*) Many nouns of this declension are irregular in the nominative plural. When the nom. pl. ends in aċa or ana the gen. pl. is got by dropping the final a. When the nom. pl. ends in te or í the gen. pl. is usually the same.

féil, a festival.	plural	féilean.
cúil, a cause.	,,	cúileana.
luib, an herb, a weed	,,	luibeana.
céim, a step.	,,	céimeana.
carraic, a rock	,,	carraiceaca.
creag, a crag.	,,	creagaca.
paidir, a prayer.	,,	paidreaca.
craob, a branch.	,,	craobaca.
uib, an egg.	,,	uibeaca.
obair, work	,,	oibreaca.
litir, a letter.	,,	litreaca.
nígean, a daughter.	,,	nígeanaca.
ainm, a name.	,,	ainmnaca.
slat, a rod.	,,	slataca.*
áit, a place.	,,	áiteaca, áití.
pínginn, a penny.	,,	pínginneaca, pínginne*
cian, an age.	,,	ciantaí.
pian, a pain or pang.	,,	piantaí.
péirt, an eel-shaped monster.	,,	péirtí.

(*c.*) Diminutives in og, as a general rule, have í in the plural, and, in accordance with the rule "caol le caol," must be written aí.

cuiteog, a lob-worm.	*plural*	cuiteogaí
míoltóg, a midge.	,,	mioltogaí.
cuileog, a fly, a gnat.	,,	cuileogaí.
eagog, a weasel.	,,	eagogaí.
péirteog, a worm.	,,	péirteogaí.

* Gen. pl. slataċ, but sometimes slat, as in Dómhnaċ na slat, Palm Sunday; pínginneaca refers to number, pínginne to amount.

beaċoɡ, a bee.	*plural*	beaċoɡaí.
ɡlaireoɡ, a wag-tail.	„	ɡlaireoɡaí.
laroɡ, a light, a match.	„	laroɡaí.
rpanoɡ, a spoon.	„	rpanoɡaí.
luċoɡ, a rat.	„	luċoɡaí.
báboɡ, a doll.	„	báboɡaí.
rpideoɡ, a robin	„	rpideoɡaí.
fuinneoɡ, a window.	„	fuinneoɡaí.
rpíonoɡ, a gooseberry.	„	rpíonoɡaí.

(*d*) Nouns of more than one syllable in aċ change ċ into ɡ where attenuation takes place. The vocative singular is usually like the nominative singular. Ex., cláirċ, a harp.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	cláirċ, a harp.	cláirċa, harps.
Gen.	cláirɡe, of a harp.	cláirċ, of harps.
Dat.	cláirɡ, a harp.	cláirċa, harps.
Voc.	a ċlairċ! O harp!	a ċlairċa! O harps!

Examples for Declension.

ɡiorrċ, a girl.	colpċ, a heifer, stirk.
oinreaċ, a hussy.	beaiċ, a heifer.
caillеaċ, an old woman.	ɡealaċ, a moon.
blaċaċ, buttermilk.	reirriaċ, a plough.
aiteanaċ, furze.	barriaċ, tow.

Third Declension.

(*a*) The third declension comprises (1) personal nouns in oıṁ; (2) abstract nouns in ↄ ċ t, and others expressing a singular idea; (3) verbal nouns in ↄ ḋ. The genitive singular takes the broad increase, ↄ. Example, mↄllↄ ċ t, a curse.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	mↄllↄ ċ t, a curse.	mↄllↄ ċ tↄí, curses.
Gen.	mↄllↄ ċ tↄ, of a curse.	mↄllↄ ċ t, of curses.
Dat.	mↄllↄ ċ t, a curse.	mↄllↄ ċ tↄí, curses.
Voc.	ↄ ṁↄllↄ ċ t! O curse!	ↄ ṁↄllↄ ċ tↄí! O curses!

(*b*) When the characteristic vowel is slender it must be made broad in the genitive singular. Example, ceóıtoıṁ, a musician.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	ceóıtoıṁ, a mus.	ceóıtoıṁí, musicians.
Gen.	ceóıtoıↄ, of a mus.	ceóıtoıṁ, of musicians.
Dat.	ceóıtoıṁ, a mus.	ceóıtoıṁí, musicians.
Voc.	ↄ ċeóıtoıṁ! O mus.!	ↄ ċeóıtoıṁí! O musicians!

N.B.—Nouns that express an abstract or singular idea have no plural.

Examples.

fheadaoir, a mower.	fallsaċt, laziness.
crochaoir, a hangman.	dánaċt, boldness.
muilteoir, a miller.	láidreaċt, strength.
búirteoir, a butcher.	bochtaċt, poverty.
scéaltóir, a story-teller.	iascaireaċt, fishing.
cruthaitheoir, a creator.	táilliúireaċt, tailoring.
fallsóir, an idler.	críonnaċt, wisdom.
dorsóir, a porter.	beannaċt, a blessing.
buachaill, a boy.	cleas, a trick.
altóir, an altar.	cath, a battle, temptation.
toil, the will.	drúcht, dew.
fuil (g. fola), blood.	rath, luck, prosperity.

(*c*) Many nouns of this declension are irregular in some of the cases. Monosyllabic words change 10 or 1 into ea in the genitive singular.

NOM. SING.	GEN. SING.	NOM. PL.
cathair, a city.	cathrach	cathracha.
lasair, a flame	lasrach.	lasracha.
athair, a father.	athar.	aithreacha.
mathair, a mother.	mathar.	maithreacha.
bráthair, a confrere.	bráthar.	bráithreacha.
deartháir, a brother.	deartháthar.	deartháthracha.
deirbhshiur a sister.	deirbhshiúrtha.	deirbhshiúrthacha.*
biorr, a spit.	bearta.	bearta.
cíoch or ciú, a shower.	ceacha.	ceacha.
móin, turf.	móna.	mónta.

* Usually syncopated: Deirbhreacha.

(*d*) The genitive of verbal nouns is the same as the passive participle of the verb.

bualaḋ, beating	*gen.* buailte.
molaḋ, praise.	,, molta.
beannuġaḋ, a blessing	,, beannuiġte.

Fourth Declension.

This declension comprises most nouns ending in a vowel or in. Example, tiġearna, a lord.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	tíġearna, a lord.	tíġearnaí, lords.
Gen.	tíġearna, of a lord.	tíġearna, of lords.
Dat.	tíġearna, a lord.	tiġearnaí, lords.
Voc.	á tíġearna ! O lord!	á tíġearnaí! O lords!

Ex., píobaire, a piper.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	píobaire, a piper.	píobairí, pipers.
Gen.	píobaire, of a piper.	píobaire, of pipers.
Dat.	píobaire, a piper.	píobairí, pipers.
Voc.	á píobaire ! O piper !	a píobairí! O pipers!

Ex., cuinín, a rabbit.

N. A.	cuinín, a rabbit.	cuiníní, rabbits.
Gen.	cuinín, of a rabbit.	cuinín, of rabbits.
Dat.	cuinín, a rabbit.	cuiníní, rabbits.
Voc.	a ċuinín ! O rabbit!	a ċuiníní! O rabbits!

Further Examples.

mála, a bag.	crúiscín, a jar.
scála, a dish.	coiscín, a little foot.
fáinne, a ring.	tuiscín, a spade handle.
túiscne, a spinning-wheel.	cailín, a girl.
fáilte, a welcome.	róisín, a little rose.
faiscge, a sea.	piscín, a kitten.
físcinne, truth.	muiscín, a darling.
cuiscle, a vein, pulse	ruibín, a ribbon.
oíbče, a night.	póigín, a little kiss.
páistoe, a child.	aitín, a brood.
rógaire, a rogue.	paiscín, a rosary beads.
Máire, Mary.	caitlín, Cathleen.
áscna, a sloe.	puincte, a point (of argument).
teine, fire.	*gen.* teineád. *pl.* teinte.
baile, a town.	„ baile „ bailte.
duine, a person.	„ duine „ daoini.

Fifth Declension.

The fifth declension comprises, for the most part, feminine nouns. They usually end in a vowel. Ex., peasrá, a person.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	peasrá, a person.	peasrana, persons.
Gen.	peasran, of a person.	peasran, of persons.
Dat.	peasrain, a person.	peasrana, persons.
Voc.	á peasrá! O person!	á peasrana! O persons!

Examples.

Alba, Scotland.	comharsa, a neighbour.
Mumha, Munster.	Gobha, a smith.
lurgha, a shin.	iongha, a claw, a nail.
urra, a prop.	uille, an elbow.
ghualann, a shoulder.	teora, a boundary.

☞ Éire, Ireland, *gen.* Éireann, *dat.* Éirinn, *voc.* A Eire!

Irregular Nouns.

Dia, God, a god.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	Dia.	Déithe.
Gen.	Dé.	Dia.
Dat.	Dia.	Déithe.
Voc.	a Dhia!	a Dheithe!

Bean, a woman.

N. A.	bean.	mná.
Gen.	mná.	ban.
Dat.	bean, mnaoi.	mnáibh.
Voc,	a bean!	a mhna!

Cára, a friend.

N. A.	cára.	cáirde.
Gen.	cára, cáraid.	cára
Dat.	cára, cáraid.	cáirde.
Voc.	a chára, a cháraid!	a cháirde!

Cú, a hound.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	cú.	coin.
Gen.	cú, con.	con, cú.
Dat.	cú, coin.	coin.
Voc.	á ċú!	á ċoin!

Caoṁa, a sheep.

N. A.	caoṁa.	caoiṁiġ.
Gen.	caoṁaiḋ	caoṁaḋ
Dat.	caoṁa	caoiṁiġ.
Voc.	á ċaoṁa!	á ċaoiṁiġ!

Ġé, a goose.

N. A.	ġé.	ġéaċa.
Gen.	ġé, ġéiṙ.	ġéaḋ.
Dat.	ġé.	ġéaċa.
Voc.	á ġé!	á ġeaċa!

Laḋ, a duck.

N. A.	laḋ.	laḋain.
Gen.	laċa.	laḋan.
Dat.	laḋ.	laḋain.
Voc.	á laḋ!	á laḋain!

Ḃó, a cow.

N. A.	ḃó.	ḃa, ḃaḋ.
Gen.	ḃó.	ḃó.
Dat.	ḃó, ḃuin.	ḃa.
Voc.	á ḃó!	á ḃa!

Ṫeaḋ, a house (*m.*)

N. A.	ṫeaḋ.	ṫiġṫe.
Gen.	ṫiġe, ṫíġ.	ṫiġṫe, ṫeaḋ.
Dat.	ṫíġ, ṫeaḋ.	ṫiġṫe.
Voc.	á ṫeaḋ!	á ṫiġṫe!

Sliabh, a mountain (*m.*)

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	sliabh.	sléibhte.
Gen.	sléibhe.	sléibhte.
Dat.	sliabh.	sléibhte.
Voc.	a shliabh!	a shléibhte!

Lá, a day (*m.*)

N. A.	lá.	laetha.
Gen.	lae.	laetha.
Dat.	lá.	laetha.
Voc.	a lá!	a laetha!

Mí, a month (*f.*)

N. A.	mí	míosa.
Gen.	míosa.	míos.
Dat.	mí.	míosa.
Voc.	a mhí!	a míosa!

Bliadain, a year (*f.*)

N. A.	bliadain.	bliadantaí, bliadna*
Gen.	bliadna.	bliadan.
Dat.	bliadain	bliadantaí.
Voc.	a bhliadain!	a bhliadantaí!

Ceó, fog (*m.*)

N. A.	ceó.	ceóca.
Gen.	ceóigh.	ceó.
Dat.	ceó.	ceóca.
Voc.	a cheó!	a cheóca!

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* bliadna means a definite period of time, as cúig bliadna, five years. bliadantaí = an indefinite period, as tá na bliadantaí ag dul thart, the years are passing.

Declension of Adjectives.

In Irish, all adjectives having a consonantal ending are declined; those ending in a vowel are indeclinable, being the same in all cases.

The gender of Irish adjectives is known by the company they keep. For example, mór is masculine when it goes with a masculine noun, but it is feminine when it goes with a feminine noun. There are three declensions of adjectives.

First Declension.

This declension comprises masculine adjectives. They are declined exactly like nouns of the first declension, except that they have a or e for the plural. Examples, ban, white; fantaċ, greedy; binn, melodious.

	SINGULARS.	PLURALS.
N. A.	bán, fantaċ, binn.	bána, fantaċa, binne.
Gen.	báin, fantaiġ, binn*	bán, fantaċ, binn.
Dat.	bán, fantaċ, binn.	bána, fantaċa, binne.
Voc.	báin, fantaiġ, binn.	bána, fantaċa, binne.

Second Declension.

This declension comprises feminine adjectives, and they are declined like nouns of the Second Declension. Using the same adjectives:

	SINGULARS.	PLURALS.
N. A.	bán, fantaċ, binn.	bána, fantaċa, binne
Gen.	báine, fantaiġe, binne.	bán, fantaċ, binn.
Dat.	báin, fantaiġ, binn.	bána, fantaċa, binne
Voc.	báin, fantaċ, binn.	bána, fantaċa, binne

* binn is already slender, therefore no change.

Third Declension.

This declension comprises all adjectives in amail. They are declined like nouns of the Third Declension. Example, fearamail, manly.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. & A.	fearamail.	fearamla.
Gen.	fearamla.	fearamail.
Dat.	fearamail.	fearamla.
Voc.	fearamail.	fearamla.

N.B.—These forms are used for mas. and fem. nouns.

The Article, Adjective, and Noun Declined.

(*a*) The article aspirates the initial of a feminine noun in the nominative, accusative, and dative singular. It aspirates the initial of a musculine noun in the genitive and dative singular. If there is an adjective with the noun, its initial will be aspirated in these cases, even when the article is not used. In the genitive plural, the initials of noun and adjective are eclipsed.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	an bád bán *	na báid bána.
Gen.	an báid báin.	na m-bád m-bán.
Dat.	air an bád bán.	ais na báid bána.
Voc.	a báid báin !	a bádа bána !

* The white boat.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	an bhróg bán *	na bhróga bána.
Gen.	na bróige báine.	na m-bróg m-bán.
Dat.	ar an bhróig báin.	air na bhróga bána.
Voc.	a bhróig báin !	a bhróga bána !
N. A.	an bad mín †	na báid míne.
Gen.	an báid mhín.	na m-bád mín.
Dat.	annr an bád mhín.	leir na báid míne.
Voc.	a báid mhín !	a bada míne !
N. A.	an bhróg mhín ‡	na bhróga míne.
Gen.	na bróige míne.	na m-bróg mín.
Dat.	annr an bhróig mhín.	air na bhróga míne.
Voc.	a bhróig mhín !	a bhróga míne !

First Exception : Initial t and d are not aspirated by the article, but a feminine adjective may have its initial aspirated in the usual way ; as, an tir tirim or an tir thirim (*f*).

Second Exception : Nouns beginning with r, instead of being aspirated, are eclipsed in the singular number. s is *never eclipsed* anywhere else. Initial r of adjectives is *aspirated* in the usual way.

Third Exception : Words beginning with rb, rc, rd, rg, rm, rp, or rt can neither be eclipsed nor aspirated.

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* The white shoe ; † the smooth boat ; ‡ the smooth shoe.

Examples.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	an tarb tinn *	na tuirbh tinne.
Gen.	an tuirbh tinn.	na d-tarbh d-tinn.
Dat.	air an tarbh tinn.	air na tuirbh tinne.
Voc.	a thuirbh thinn!	a tharbha tinne!
N. A.	an t-slat fhárta †	na slataċa fárta.
Gen.	na slaite fárta.	na slataċ fárta.
Dat.	air an t-slait fhárta.	air na slataċa fárta
Voc.	a shlait fhárta!	a shlataċa fárta!
N. A.	an sgadan sgalta ‡	na sgadain sgalta.
Gen.	an sgadain sgalta.	na sgadan sgalta.
Dat.	air an sgadan sgalta.	air na sgadain sgalta.
Voc.	a sgadain sgalta!	a sgadana sgalta!

(*b*) *Masculine nouns* beginning with a vowel and declined with the article, prefix t in the nominative and accusative singular; and *all nouns, masculine and feminine*, beginning with a vowel take h after the article na, but the genitive plural requires n.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	an t-aran úr §	na h-arain úra.
Gen.	an arain úir.	na n-aran úr.
Dat.	air an aran úr.	air na h-arain úra.
Voc.	á arain úir!	a arana úra!

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* The sick bull; † the handy rod; ‡ the paltry herring; § the fresh bread.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
N. A.	an uiḃ úr *	na h-uiḃeaċa úra.
Gen.	na h-uiḃe úire.	na n-uiḃeaċ úr.
Dat.	annr an uiḃ úir.	air na h-uiḃeaċa úra.
Voc.	á uiḃ úir!	a uiḃeaċa ura!

N.B.—(1) The dative case, as we have seen, is governed by a preposition. (2) In the vocative case the adjective is aspirated in the singular only. (3) Adjectives beginning with a vowel and declined as above are not influenced in any way. (4) Nouns and adjectives beginning with l, n, or r, are never influenced.

To be Declined.

an fear beag,	the little man.
an bean beag,	the little woman.
an tócaċ laḋaċ,	the winsome youth.
an ġiorraċ laḋaċ,	the winsome girl.
an t-eallaċ bradaċ,	the thievish cattle.
an bó eólaċ,	the knowing cow.
an riocan bán,	the white frost.
an salann mín,	the fine salt.
an láṁ láidir,	the strong hand.
an ruibín riġin,	the tough ribbon.
an nim ṁnneaċ	the painful poison.
an hata aerach,	the gaudy hat.
an bealach-mór,	the road, the highway.
an baile-mór,	the town.

* The fresh egg.

☞ Bealaċ-mór = a highway, bealaċ mor = a long or big road; baile-mór = a town or village, baile mór = a big locality or town. Bealaċ-mór conveys but one idea, viz., "road," while bealaċ mor conveys two ideas, viz., "road" and "big." It is, therefore, better to join two words when they convey but one idea. See "Compound Words."

mala-leaṫair = a leathern bag.
mala leaṫair = a bagful of leather.
mala an leaṫair = the bag for holding leather.

Special Use of the Article.

(1) Before surnames: An Doċartaċ, O'Doherty.

(2) Before names of countries, An Spáin, Spain.

(3) Before abstract names: an t-ocras, hunger.

(4) Before adjectives used as nouns: an t-olc, evil.

(5) In stating time: An cúig o ċlog, Five o'clock.

(6) Before a noun with a demonstrative pronoun: an fear so, this man.

(7) After "Cia?" or "Cé?": Cé 'n fear? What man?

(8) "A piece" or "per": Pingin an ceann, a penny a piece; sé pingne an duirín, sixpence per dozen. But, a penny per day = pingin 'san la.

(9) To express contempt: Seamus an ċinn mór big-headed James. Sliolla na g-cor g-cam! (You) crooked-legged fellow!

(10) To mark profession :

Father O'Donnell	An sagart a Domhnaill.
Dr. Kelly.	An Doctuir a Ceallaig.

(11) To express connection :

Máire an Ghleanna	Mary from the Glen.
Seagan an táilliura	The tailor's John

N.B.—"John" in the last example may be a son or a servant.

(12) To express *some* or *any* : Ní fuil an capall agam = I have not any horses. [See *some* or *any*].

Syncopated Words.

When the characteristic element of a word is short, the preceding consonant attracts a final l, n, r, or s, when a new syllable beginning with a vowel is added; thus, telescoping, so to speak, the characteristic vowel or vowels.

Examples.

laram	+ aca	= laraira	= lar--raca = larraca.
cathair	+ aca	= cathaira	= cath--raca = cathraca.
paidir	+ aca	= paidira	= paid--raca = paidreaca.
laram	+ ac	= larairac	= lar--rac = larrac.
obair	+ e	= obaire	= ob--re = oibre.
úmal	+ a	= úmala	= úm--la = úmla.

The following is an example of a syncopated noun and adjective declined:—obair fearamail, manly work.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
	First Idea.	
N. & A.	obair fearamail	obairdea fearamailа.
Gen.	obairе fearamailа	obairdeа fearamail.
Dat.	obair fearamail	obairdea fearamailа.
	Second Idea.	
	obair fearamail	ob--dea fearam--la.
	ob--re fearam--la	ob--deа fearamail.
	obair fearamail	ob--dea fearam--la.
	Syncopated.	
	obair fearamail	oibreaca* fearamla.
	oibre fearamla	oibreac fearamail.
	obair fearamail	oibreaca fearamla

Family Names.

(*a*) The prefix "O" is rendered in Irish by a, the shortened form of ua, a descendant. It has a feminine form ni, which causes aspiration. Both forms are followed by the genitive case. a may also be written O, especially in translating "O'Neill," the feminine form being the same, ni.

James O'Donnell	Seamus a Domnaill.
Mary O'Donnell	Maire ni Domnaill.
John O'Neill	Seagan o Neill.
Nora O'Neill	Nora ni Neill.
Patrick O'Doherty	Padraic a Docartaig.
Una O'Doherty	Una ni Docartaig.

* Not obrada; the root of the gen. sing. is preferred.

(*b*) The genitive case of ua is uí or í; that of O is í. The feminine ní does not change. Uí is preferred to í.

James O'Donnell's son	mac Séamuir uí Dómnaill.
Mary O'Donnell's son	mac Máire ní Dómnaill.
John O'Neill's son	mac Seagain uí Néill.

(*c*) The prefix "Mac" is rendered by Mac, a son, usually shortened to Ac. The feminine form is Nic. No aspiration takes place, but both forms are followed by the genitive. Mac becomes Mic in the genitive.

Charles MacHugh	Séarlus Ac Aoid.
Sarah MacHugh	Sorca nic Aoid.
George MacSweeney	Seórsa Ac Suibne.
Brigid MacSweeney	Brighid nic Suibne.
Hugh MacSweeney's son	mac Aoid mic Suibne.

(*d*) In many cases the Irish prefix ua or a is used when there is none in English.

James Kelly	Séamus a Ceallaig.
Brigid Kelly	Bríghid ní Ceallaig.
Daniel Boyle	Domnall a Baoghaill.
Annie Boyle	Anna ní Baoghaill.

(*e*) Some names take the article after Mac and Nic. Before a consonant Mac an is shortened to Aca, the feminine form being Nica or Nioca.

Cormac Ward	Cormac Aca Bárd.*
Mary Ward	Máire nioca Bárd.
Denis MacNulty	Donnchaid mac an Ultaigh.
Nora MacNulty	Nóra nic an Ultaigh.

(*f*) In using the surname only, we use the article with the nominative case, taking care to make the

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* The article aspirates here, as it is really a contracted genitive. Mac an Bárd means the son of the bard, but as a surname we now say Aca Bárd. Craig = a Creag, and not a Criéige.

latter end in ᴀċ. This rule, however, is not general; in fact many surnames never admit it, and many others make it optional.

O'Doherty is coming	Tá an Doċaṁtaċ aġ teaċt.
Boyle is coming	Tá an Baoġallaċ aġ teaċe.
O'Donnell is coming	Tá an Dálaċ aġ teaċt.
Craig is coming	Tá an Creaġaċ aġ teaċt.
MacNulty is coming	Tá Mac an Ulṫaiġ aġ teaċt.
MacNeill is coming	Tá Mac Néill aġ teaċt.
MacSweeney is coming	Tá Mac Suiḃne aġ teaċt.

Governing Power of Nouns.

(*a*) In Irish a noun can govern another noun in the genitive case, and the governed noun comes last. A definite noun can be governed by a definite noun only, and in discharging this function the governing noun never takes the article.

The head of the horse	Ceann an ċapaill.
The sand of the sea	Ġainiṁ na ṁaiṁġe.
The taste of the bread	Blaṫ an aṁain.
The smell of the fish	Boladh an éiṁġ.
The halter of the horse	Adhartaṁ an ċapaill.
The foot of the hen	Coṁ na circe.
The son of the king	Mac an ṁí.

(*b*) A definite noun can also govern an indefinite noun in the genitive case, and if the genitive expresses quality, connection or origin, the governing noun never takes the article.

It has the taste of bread	Tá blaṫ aṁain aiṁ.
It has the smell of fish	Ta boladh éiṁġ aiṁ.
The halter of a horse	Adhartaṁ capaill.
The foot of a hen	Coṁ circe.
The son of a king	Mac ṁí.

(*c*) When the indefinite genitive denotes a part of something, or the material of which something is

made, the governing definite noun will have the article expressed.

The bite of bread	An gabhal aráin.
The draught of wine	An deoch fíona.
The bag of meal	An mála mine.
The streak of light	An sruth solais.
The spark of lightning	An splanc soillse.
The house of gold	An teach óir.
The bag (made) of leather	An mala leathair.

(*d*) The use to which a thing is put, or the place where a thing is found or produced is expressed by a definite genitive.

Mála an leathair	The bag for holding leather.
Mála na mine	The bag for meal, the meal bag.
Teach an óir	The house for storing gold.
Cruach an airgid	The hill where silver is got.
Cnoc an áir	The hill where slaughter occurred.
Loch an t-solais	The light-reflecting lake.
Claidheamh an t-solais	The flashing sword.

(*e*) An indefinite noun can govern an indefinite noun only.

A piece of bread	Giota aráin.
A cup of water	Cupa uisge.
A drink of milk	Deoch bainne.
A house of gold	Teach óir.
A bag of flour	Mála plúir.

(*f*) The English possessive case is rendered by the genitive, the initial of which must be aspirated if it is a proper name.*

The king's sister's son's shoe	Bhróg mic deirbhshiúra an rí.
Mary's sister's son's shoe	Bhróg mic deirbhshiúra Mháire.

* Except: Mac Dé, feile Muire, feile Pádraic, feile Eóin, feile Peadair, &c. Like family names after Mac and Ua, there is no aspiration after feile, a feast or festival.

N.B.—Mary's sister's son's shoe = The shoe of the son of the sister of Mary. It is plain, therefore, that the article cannot be used here with bhrog, mic and deirbhfhuar, each being a governing noun.

Compound Words.

(*a*) When we form a compound word in Irish the initial of the second part will be aspirated, the first part performing the function of a prefix or adjective.*

Cúl-cáint	Back-talk, back-biting.
Caor-fheoil	Sheep-flesh, mutton.
Muic-fheoil	Pig-flesh, bacon.
Fíor-bhuan	Steadfast, faithful.
Fíor-óilir	Sincere.

(*b*) When the first part does not perform the function of an adjective or prefix the second part is usually in the genitive case, and is often equivalent to an adjective or affix. Hence the aspiration of the second part will depend on the gender of the first part.

An fear-ceoil	The musician.
An fir-cheoil	Of the musician.
An fear-mire	The madman.
An fir-mhire	Of the madman.
An chruach-mhóna	The turf-stack.
Na cruaiche-móna	Of the turf-stack.
An bó-bhainne	The milch cow.
Na bó-bainne	Of the milch cow.
Sgian-phóca	A penknife.
Airgead-póca	Pocket money.

* There are some exceptions which should be committed to memory. Here are a few:—Ceann-tír, a cape; bean-dia, a goddess; bean-tighearna, a lady; fear-duine, an old man; buan-saoghalach, long-lived, &c.

N.B.—These compounds may or may not be joined by a hyphen. In either case *they convey but one idea*, and must, therefore, be looked upon as *single words;* otherwise the article could not be used with them, as above.

☞ The student must not suppose that every genitive that comes after a noun counts as an adjective. It is only when the genitive is *a part of the compound* that it is equivalent to an adjective.

Comparison of Adjectives.

(*a*) The comparative of superiority and inferiority is formed by putting níor before the genitive singular feminine of the positive.

A whiter cat	Cat níor báine.*
He is blacker than Hugh	Tá se níor dubhe na Aodh.
He was blacker than Hugh	Bí se níor dubhe na Aodh.

(*b*) With the verb is, the comparative sign nior is not used, except when the comparative qualifies a noun, as in the last example below.

Una is darker than Mary	Is dubhe Una na Máire.
Una was darker than Mary	Bhí dubhe Una na Máire.
She is a darker girl than Una	Is dubhe an cailín í na Una.
She was a darker girl than Una	Bhí dubhe an cailín í na Una.
Nora is a darker girl.	Is cailín níor dubhe Nóra.

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* Cat níor báine, *i.e.*, cat nidh a is báine = a cat *a thing which is* whiter. Nidh a is was formerly written nidh-sa, níosa, and nísa; and at present we write it as above. As may be seen, níor, *i.e.*, nidh a is, sometimes becomes ni dubh, *i.e.*, nidh a dubh, the relative being omitted. It is usual to call níor the comparative sign.

(*c*) With past tenses, níor is often written ní bud or ní ba, especially when the two objects compared are both connected with past time.

Una was darker than Mary (is)	Bí Una níor duibe na Máire.
Una was darker than Mary (was)	Bí Una ní ba duibe na Máire.
Una was younger than Mary (was)	Bí Una ní b' óige na Máire.

☞ I never drank sweeter wine than that =

(1) { I never drank sweeter wine than that (is).
níor ól me riamh fíon níor milre na sin.

(2) { I never drank sweeter wine than that (was).
níor ól me riamh fíon ba mhilre na sin.

(3) { I never drank wine which was sweeter than that.
1. níor ól me riamh fíon a bí níor milre na sin.
2. níor ól me riamh fíon a bí ní ba mhilre na sin.
3. níor ól me riamh fíon ba* mhilre na sin.

(*d*) The comparative of equality is formed by putting comh or co before the positive and le after it. When there is a second verb le becomes agus or a'r.

I am as big as Mary	Tá me co mór le Máire.
I am as big as you	Tá me co mór leat-sa.
I am as big as I was	Tá me co mór a'r bí me.

The Superlative.

(*a*) In English we say "the blackest horse," but in Irish we say "the horse *which is* blackest" or "the horse *which was* blackest." In like manner, "You are the fairest" is "You are *who are* fairest," and "You were the fairest" is "You were *who were* fairest." The form of the adjective is the same as in

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* This is not the comparative sign. ba here discharges the same function as "bí" in the preceding example, the relative a being understood.

the comparative. Always omit the relative, as, *the blackest coal* = an gual (a) ir duibe = an gual ir duibe.

The blackest horse (present)	An geamhan ir duibe.
The blackest horse (past)	An geamhan ba duibe
You are the fairest	Ir tú ir dire.
You were the fairest	Bud tú ba dire
You are the fairest girl	Ir tú an cailín ir dire
You were the fairest girl	Bud tú an cailín ba dire.

(*b*) When the superlative sign is ba it aspirates, except in the case of d and t, and before a vowel sound it usually becomes ab.

He was the biggest man	Bud é an fear ba mó.
He was the fleetest man	Bud é an fear ba gairge.
He was the best man	Bud é an fear ab fearr
He was the youngest man	Bud é an fear ab óige

(*c*) As principal verbs, ir and bud (or ba) express simple present and simple past time respectively, and as there are no other forms of this verb in modern use, the other tenses are expressed by the aid of a relative a clause.

You are wont to be the smartest man in the country.
You will be the smartest man in the country.
You used to be the smartest man in the country.
You would be the smartest man in the country.

Ir tú an fear ir gairge a bídeas fan tír.
Ir tú an fear ir gairge a béidheas fan tír.
Bud tú an fear ba gairge a bídeadh fan tír.
Bud tú an fear ba gairge a béidheadh fan tír.

N.B.—In comparing adjectives we use níos and ir as signs of the comparative and superlative, as, ban, níos báine, ir báine, white, whiter, whitest.

Irregular Comparison.

POSITIVE.	COMPARATIVE.	SUPERLATIVE.
mór, big, great	níor mó	ár mó.
beag, small	níor lúg	ár lúg.
maith, good	níor fearr	ár fearr.
olc, bad	níor measa	ár measa.
fada, long	níor faide	ár faide.
teith, hot, warm	níor teó	ár teó.
furasta, easy	níor furasa	ár furasa.
cinnte, sure	níor cinntige	ár cinntige.
minic, often	níor minica	ár minica.
gasta, smart, clever	níor guirte	ár guirte.
geall / gairid } short.	níor giorra	ár giorra.

Position of Adjectives.

Adjectives are placed after the nouns they qualify, as teach mór, a big house. Droch, bad, and sean, old, and all the simple numerals stand before their nouns. When geall stands after its noun it means *short*, but when it stands before the noun it means *medium-sized*. fíor, true, often discharges the function of a prefix; it then has a different meaning, as, fíor-uisge, real-water, *i.e.*, spring-water. Sometimes it acts as an intensive particle, as, fíor-ghránna, very ugly. Déag, good (in a moral sense) always precedes its noun, and is really a prefix, as, deag-duine, a morally good person.

☞ In poetry, monosyllabic adjectives often stand before the nouns they qualify, but this should not be imitated in prose.

Adjectives Referring Back.

When an adjective refers to a noun already spoken of, it must be accompanied by some such word as, ceann, a head, duine, a person, fear, a man, bean, a woman, etc.

The biggest is black	Tá an ceann is mó dubh.
The eldest is a good girl	Tá an bean is sine na cailín maith.
Give me the reddest	Tabhair dam an ceann is deirge.
You have the best	Tá an ceann is fearr agat-sa.

Agreement of Adjectives.

(*a*) Adjectives that immediately follow the nouns they qualify agree with them in number, gender, and case.

A big man and a small woman	Fear mór agus bean beag.
Big men and small women	Fir móra agus mna beaga.

(*b*) When an adjective stands alone as predicate it is invariable.

The cows are *big*	Tá na ba mór.
The big cows are *black*	Tá na ba mora dubh.
He made the knives *sharp*	Rinne sé na sgiana geur.
He made the sharp knives	Rinne sé na sgiana geura.

☞ The adjective droch cannot stand alone as predicate. Hence it would be wrong to say Ta an bó droch, the cow is bad.

(*c*) When an adjective qualifies two or more *indefinite* nouns, it agrees with the noun next it only. But if they are *definite* nothing strange occurs except that the article must be used with each noun in Irish :

A good man and woman	Fear agus bean maith.
A good woman and man	Bean agus fear maith.
The good man and woman	An fear agus an bean maith.
The good woman and man	An bean agus an fear maith.

(*d*) When an adjective stands before its noun it is invariable as to form, but it aspirates the initial of its noun, and is, itself, liable to be affected just as if it formed part of the noun:

O thou bad man!	A dhroch fhear!
O ye bad men!	A dhroch fheara!
The head of the old horse	Ceann an t-sean chapaill.

(*e*) The intensive particles an, ro, sar, fior, ur, etc., are prefixed to adjectives, the latter being aspirated by them. Most of the monosyllabic adjectives already referred to, perform the same function to nouns.

Partitive Words.

NOTE:—A word is definite when it is preceded by the definite article, a possessive pronoun, a demonstrative pronoun, or a possessive case, as, *the cow*, *this cow*, *my cow*, *John's cow*. Phrases like *the full of a spoon*, *the full of a boat*, being equivalent to *a spoonful*, *a boatful*, are indefinite.

(*a*) A *noun* preceded by a *definite* word expressing fulness or part must be rendered in Irish by the genitive case.

The full of a boat	Lán bháid.
The full of the boat	Lán an bháid.
The whole of the boat	Iomlan an bháid.
The half of this boat	Leath an bháid seo.
The third of the man's boat	Trían bháid an fhir.

(*b*) A *definite noun* preceded by an *indefinite* word expressing fulness or part must be rendered by the dative with de.

It is full of the bread	Tá ré lán de 'n arán.
Plenty of the bread	Neart de 'n arán.
Much of this bread	Moran de 'n arán so.
Little of that bread	Beagan de 'n arán sin.
Some of the bread	Cuid de 'n arán.
More of the bread	Tuilleadh de 'n arán.
A fair-share of the bread	Cuid maith de 'n arán.
The full of a boat of the bread	Lán báid de 'n arán.
A spoonful of the honey	Lán spanoige de 'n mil.

(*c*) An *indefinite* noun preceded by an *indefinite* adjective of fulness or part may be rendered either by the genitive, or by de with the dative.

Plenty of bread	Neart aráin or Neart de arán.
Much bread	Moran aráin ,, Moran de arán.
Little bread	Beagán aráin ,, beagan de arán.
Full of bread	Lán aráin ,, lán de arán.

Numeral Adjectives.

CARDINALS.	ORDINALS.
1. Aon.	1st céud.
2. dá, dó.	2nd dara.
3. trí.	3rd trímhadh, tríar.
4. ceithre, ceathair.	4th ceathradh.
5. cúig.	5th cúigeadh.
6. sé.	6th seisear, séimhear.
7. seacht.	7th seachtadh.
8. ocht.	8th ochtadh.
9. naoi.	9th naomhadh.
10. deich.	10th deicheadh.
11. aon-déag.	11th aonadh-déag.
12. dó-dhéag.	12th dómhadh-déag.
13. trí-déag.	13th trímheadh-déag.
14. ceathair-déag.	14th ceathradh-déag.

CARDINALS.	ORDINALS.
15. cúig-deug.	15th cúigeadh-deug.
16. sé-deug.	16th seiseadh-deug, séimeadh-deug.
17. seacht-deug.	17th seachtadh-deug.
18. ocht-deug.	18th ochtadh-deug.
19. naoi-deug.	19th naoimhadh-deug.
20. fiche.	20th fichead.
21. aon a'r fiche.	21st aonadh air fichid.*
22. dó a'r fiche.	22nd dóimhadh air fichid.
23. trí a'r fiche.	23rd tríimeadh air fichid.
24. ceathair a'r fiche.	24th ceathradh air fichid.
25. cúig a'r fiche.	25th cúigeadh air fichid.
26. sé a'r fiche.	26th séimeadh air fichid.
27. seacht a'r fiche.	27th seachtadh air fichid.
28. ocht a'r fiche.	28th ochtadh air fichid.
29. naoi a'r fiche.	29th naoimhadh air fichid.
30. deich a'r fiche.	30th deicheadh air fichid.
31. aon-deug a'r fiche.	31st aonadh-deug air fichid
40. dá fichid.	40th dá fichidheadh.
50. deich a'r dá fichid.	50th deicheadh air dá fichid.
60. trí fichid.	60th trí fichidheadh.
70. deich a'r trí fichid.	70th deicheadh air trí fichid
80. ceithre fichid.	80th ceithre fichidheadh.
90. deich a'r ceithre fichid.	90th deicheadh air ceithre fichid.
100. céad.	100th céadadh.
200. dá chéad.	200th dá chéadadh.
300. trí chéad.	300th trí chéadadh.

* agus fiche may also be used.

400. ceiċṫe ċéad.	400th ceiċṫe ċéadaḋ.
500. cúiġ ċéad.	500th cúiġ ċéadaḋ.
600. ṡé ċéad.	600th ṡé ċéadaḋ.
700. ṡeaċt ġ-céad.	700th ṡeaċt ġ-céadaḋ.
800. oċt ġ-céad.	800th oċt ġ-céadaḋ.
900 naoi ġ-céad.	900th naoi ġ-céadaḋ.

1000 deiċ ġ-céad; míle. 1000th míleaḋ.

N.B.—ṗiċe, céad, and míle are declined: ṗiċe, gen. ṗiċead, dat ṗiċiḃ, plural ṗiċiḃ; céad, gen. céid, dat. céad, plural céadaiḃ; mile (4th decl.) plural mílte and míltí. The article must be placed before the ordinals, and h must be used when the numeral begins with a vowel, as, an h-aonaḋ, an h-oċtaḋ. This h is also used with the cardinals when the article is used, as, an h-aon, an h-oċt.

☞ míle is also plural, and means a *definite* number of thousands, as, cúiġ míle, five thousand. The same applies to míle, a mile.

First, Last, Once, Twice, &c.

The first man	An ċeud ḟear.
The last man	An ḟear deiṁeanaċ.
Do this first	Déan ṙo a'ċeud uair, ain d-tús, ain ṫús.
He did it at last	Rinne se é ṙa deiṁeaḋ, ṙa déiṁeaḋ.
He is first	Tá sé a d-toiseaċ.
He is last	Tá sé ain deiṁeaḋ.
The first time	An ċeud uair.
The last time	An uair déiṁeanaċ.
How many times?	Cá meud uair?
Once, twice	Uair amháin, dá uair.
Thrice	Trí h-uaiṁe.
Four times	Ceiṫre h-uaiṁe.
Seven times	Seaċt n-uaiṁe.

The Numeral Substantives.

(*a*) The numeral substantives are so called because they perform the functions of nouns and adjectives. They are as follows :—

beirt, two.	seisear, six.
trí, three.	seachtar, seven.
ceathair, four.	ochtar, eight.
cúigear, five.	naoinbar, nine.

deichnear (or deichneabhar) ten.

(*b*) They take the singular of the article : an bheirt, an trí; an chéathair; an chúigear; an seisear, an seachtar, an h-ochtar; an naoinbar, an deichnear. Note that beirt, cúigear, and ceathair are influenced by the article.

Use of the Numerals.

(1) In counting, in the abstract, we must never use dá or ceithre. In translating numerals we begin with the small numbers; thus, 35 = cúig-deug a's fiche; 3472 = dó-dheug a's trí fichid agus ceithre céad ain (or agus) trí míle. When a numeral is conveniently small, and a multiple of fiche or céad, it is better to count by multiples. Thus, 120 is sé fichid; 140, seacht b-fichid; 1200, dá chéad deug; 1500, cúig chéad deug. ☞ When céad is absent, fiche and míle do not go well together; hence 1020 must be written sé fichid agus naoi g-céad, not fiche agus míle, or míle agus fiche which might mean 21 thousand.

(2) When an English cardinal numeral stands (by itself) for persons, we must use either a numeral sub-

stantive with de and the dative case, or a cardinal and claigeann (skull, pl. claigne) with de and a dative.

Five of the men { Cúigear de na fir. / Cúig claigne de na fir.

Five of the tribe { Cuigear de 'n dream. / Cúig claigne de 'n dream.

(3) In answer to "how many?" an English numeral which stands (by itself) either for persons or things, must be rendered by a numeral substantive, or by a cardinal accompanied by claigeann or ceann; ceann in the case of irrational animals and things, claigeann in the case of persons.

How many men? *Five*=---? Cuigear or Cúig claigne.
How many cows? *Five*=---? Cuigear „ Cúig cinn.
How many boats? *Five*=---? Cuigear „ Cúig cinn.

(4) When an English cardinal numeral qualifies "men," "women," "children," or any such word which stands for persons, it *may* be rendered in Irish by a numeral substantive followed by the genitive plural of the noun.

Seven men { (1) Seachtar fear. / (2) Seacht b-fir. / (3) Seacht g-claigne fear.

☞ The two are here=ta an beit ann so; the three are here=ta an triúr ann so, &c.

(5) In answer to, "what time is it?"

One	or one o'clock	An* h-aon.
Two	„ two o'clock	An dó.
Three	„ three o'clock	An trí.
Four	„ four o'clock	An ceathair.
Five	„ five o'clock	An cuig.
Eight	„ eight o'clock	An h-ocht.
Eleven	„ eleven o'clock	An h-aon-deug.
Twelve	„ twelve o'clock	An dó-dheug.

* This is the article.

Noon	An meadon lae.
Midnight	An meadon oidce.
A quarter past two	Ceathad a n-diaig an dó.
Half past two	Leat a n-diaig an dó.
A quarter to three	Ceathad go d-tí 'n tri.
What o'clock is it?	Go dé 'n clog a b-fuil ré?
What time is it?	Go dé 'n t-am a b-fuil ré?
It is five o'clock	Tá ré an cúig o clog.

(*d*) With adjective and noun:

One white horse	Capall ámain bán.
Two white horses	Dá gcapall bána.
Three white horses	Trí capaill bána.
Seven white horses	Seacht g-capaill bána.
Twelve white horses	Dá gcapall deug bána.
Twelve white cows	Dá buin deug bána.
Fifteen white horses	Cuig capaill deug bána.
Thirty-five white horses	Cuig capaill deug agus fiche bána.
120 white horses	Sé fichid capall bán.
360 white horses	Trí fichid agus trí céad capall bán.
1080 white horses	Naoi b-fichid agus naoi g-céad capall bán.
6480 white horses	Ceithre fichid agus ceithre céad agus fé míle capall bán.
185 white horses	Cuig capaill agus naoi b-fichid capall bán.
930 white horses	Deic g-capaill agus fiche agus naoi g-céad capall bán.
1050 white horses	Deic g-capaill, feacht b-fichid agus naoi g-céad capall bán.
5550 white horses	Deic g-capaill agus dá fichid, cúig céad agus cúig míle capall bán.

N.B.—Remark that when a number is not a multiple of fiche the noun occurs twice; first, with the excess of the multiple, and secondly, with the remaining part of the number, which, being a multiple of fiche, requires the noun and adjective to be in the genitive plural.

(*e*) The numerals 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30, when accompanied by a noun, are often rendered idiomatically by the genitive of ꝑıċe, thus :

Twenty-three cows.	Tꝛí ba ꝑıċeaḋ.
Twenty-four cows.	Ceıṫꝛe ba ꝑıċeaḋ.
Twenty-five cows.	Cúıȝ ba ꝑıċeaḋ.

OBS.—A person 15 years old is often said to be in the *teens*, *i.e.*, in the fifth year of the *teen period*. In like manner a person 25 years old may be said to be in the fifth year *of the twenty period*, or *five years of the twenty period*.

THE NUMERALS ḊÓ and CEAṪAIR.

These numerals never qualify a noun, and always stand by themselves. Their use is, besides, limited to certain cases, the principal of which are :—

(1) In counting, as, aon, ḋó, tꝛí, ceaṫaıꝛ, ḋó-ḋeuȝ, ceaṫaıꝛ-ḋeuȝ, ceaṫaıꝛ aȝuꝛ ꝑıċe, &c.

(2) In stating time, as, Tá ꝑé an ḋó, It is two (o'clock).

(3) In stating amount of money, as, Cúıȝ ꝑunta aȝuꝛ an ḋó, Five pounds two (£5 2s. 0d.) ; Tá an ceaṫaıꝛ aȝuꝛ ꝑunta aȝam, I have one pound four (£1 4s. 0d.)

THE NUMERAL ḊÁ.

(1) The numeral ḋá can only be used with a noun, the initial of which it aspirates, as ḋá ċapaıll, ḋá ċaoꝛa.

(2) It takes the article and noun in the singular,

and if the noun be feminine, it will be the dative form, as, an dá capall, the two horses; an dá bhuin, the two cows.

(3) If the noun be genitive, it will be genitive plural, as, lán a dá lámh, the full of his two hands.

(4) It takes the adjective, and pronoun referring to its noun, in the plural, as, Tá dá bhuin óga agam agus tá siad tinn, I have two young cows and they are sick.

(5) Its dot disappears in presence of the article and also in presence of agus when it (agus) forms part of the numeral, as, an dá bhuin, the two cows; dá chapall agus dá fhiche, forty-two horses.

fiche, céad, míle, cá mhéad?

These numerals are declined and have, therefore, the nature of nouns. Hence they govern the nouns that follow them in the genitive case, as, fiche bó, twenty cows, *i.e.*, a twenty of cows; céad bó, a hundred (of) cows; míle bó, a thousand (of) cows.

Cá mhéad? or cá mhéad? How many? is followed by the genitive, as cá mhéad bó? How many (of) cows? If we change "how many?" into "how much?" we must also change "cá mhéad" into "go dté 'n méid?" or "go dté 'n méid?" For example, we must not say, cá mhéad arán? but go dté 'n méid arán? how much (of) bread? Speaking of money, however, we say, cá mhéad atá agat? how much have you?—probably because money is usually counted.

Functions of Numerals.

(1) Aon, ceud, dá, dó, and trí cause aspiration.

(2) Trí, ceithre, cúig, ré, cause no initial change except in the word céad, a hundred, míle, a thousand, a mile.

(3) All the ordinals, except ceud and tríar cause no initial change.

(4) Seacht, ocht, naoi, and deich eclipse—but they have no power over r.

Aon bó agus dá chaora	One cow and two sheep.
An ceud chapall	The first horse.
Tá sé an do-dheug	It is twelve (o'clock).
Sé bó agus ocht g-capaill	Six cows and eight horses.
Cúig céad capall	Five hundred horses.

The Personal Pronouns.

The personal pronouns are mé, I; tu, thou or you; sé, he, it; and sí, she, it. They are defective in the genitive case.

Modern grammarians maintain that mo, my; do, thy; a, his, are genitives of mé, tú, and sé. If so, they are personal pronouns. But personal pronouns always stand for, and are, consequently, used in the absence of a noun. Hence, as mo, do, and a cannot stand in the absence of a noun, it is plain that they cannot be personal pronouns. Therefore, they are not genitives of me, tu, se.

Again, the object of a transitive participle, as we shall see farther on, is put in the genitive, as, *striking John*, ag bualadh Sheagain. But when this object is a personal pronoun we are compelled to use an idiom.

Thus, *striking me*, becomes *to my striking*, do, mo bualadh.

In Irish we are compelled to say, "a cow is at me," because we have no verb "have"; we must say, "it comes with me," because we have no verb "can"; and, we have to say, "hunger is on me," because we have no primary adjective for "hungry." So also, we are compelled to say "to my striking," because we have no genitive of mé.

THE PRONOUN mé.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
Nom.	me, I.	sinn, we.
Dat.	dam, to me.	dúinn, to us.
Acc.	me, me.	sinn, us.

mé (emphatic).

Nom,	mise, I.	sinne, we.
Dat.	damsa, to me.	dúinne, to us.
Acc.	mise, me.	sinne, us.

mé (reflexive).

Nom.	me-féin, I myself.	sinn-féin, we, ourselves.
Dat.	dam-féin, to myself.	dúinn-féin, to ourselves.
Acc.	me-féin, myself.	sinn-féin, ourselves.

THE PRONOUN tú.

Nom.	tu, thou, you	sibh, you, ye.
Dat.	duit, to thee, to you	díbh, daoibh, to you.
Acc.	tú, thee, you	sibh, you, ye.
Voc.	tú! O thou!	sibh! O you! O ye!

tú (emphatic).

Nom.	tusa, thou, you.	sibhse, you, ye.
Dat.	duitse, to thee.	daibhse, to you.
Acc.	tusa, thee, you.	sibhse, you.

tú (reflexive).

Nom.	tú-fhéin, thou, thyself.	sibh-fhéin, you, yourselves.
Dat.	duit-fhéin, to thyself.	daibh-fhéin, to yourselves.
Acc.	tú-fhéin, thyself.	sibh-fhéin, yourselves.

THE PRONOUN sé.

Nom.	se, he, it.	siad, they.
Dat.	dó, to him.	dóibh, daobhsa, * to them.
Acc.	é, him.	iad, them.

sé (emphatic).

Nom.	seseán, he, it.	siadsan, they.
Dat.	dósan, to him, it.	daobhsasan, to them.
Acc.	eseán, him, it.	iadsan, them.

sé (reflexive).

Nom.	sé-fhéin, he himself.	siad-fhéin, they themselves.
Dat.	dó-fhéin, to himself.	daobhsa-fhein, to themselves.
Acc.	é-fhéin, himself.	iad-fhéin, themselves.

THE PRONOUN sí.

Nom.	sí, she, it.	siad, they.
Dat.	duithe, di, to her.	daobhsa, to them.
Acc.	í, her, it.	iad, them.

---

* or díobhsa.

Sĭ (emphatic).

Nom.	ṛıṛe, she, it.	ṛıɑʊṛɑn, they.
Dat.	ʊuıċeṛe, to her.	ʊɑoʊċɑṛɑn, to them.
Acc.	ıṛe, her, it.	ıɑʊṛɑn, them.

Sĭ (reflexive).

Nom.	ṛĭ-ṛéın, she, herself.	ṛıɑʊ-ṛéın, they themselves.
Dat.	ʊuıċe-ṛéın, to herself.	ʊɑoʊċɑ-ṛéın, to themselves.
Acc.	ĭ-ṛéın, herself.	ıɑʊ-ṛéın, themselves.

☞ The forms mıṛe, ċuṛɑ, &c., are used (1) for emphasis (2) when one pronoun is linked, by a conjunction, to another pronoun or to a noun. They are formed from the unemphatic forms by the addition of ṛe, or ṛɑ. These terminations in the third person plural and third person singular masculine, become ṛɑn, while, in the first person plural, ṛ becomes n by assimilation. So that instead of ṛınnṛe we have ṛınnne, or as it is shortened, ṛınne.

In composition, the vowel sounds in mé and ṛé are often obscure, and are pronounced *mă*, *shă*, i.e., like the vowel sound in the *Fr.*, *me*, *te*, *se*, *le*. With ıṛ, however, the e of mé is always long. It is also long with passive verbs.

The Affected Pronouns.

The so-called affected pronouns are me, ċu, é, ĭ, ıɑʊ, ṛınn and ṛıʊ. They are the secondary or accusative forms of the personal pronouns. They are used as

nominatives (1) with the verb ıṙ, and (2) with passive verbs.

ıṙ ḟeaṙ maıṫ ṫú	You are a good man.
ıṙ ḟıṙ maıṫe íaḋ	They are good men.
ḃuaıleaḋ ṫú	You were beaten.
ḃuaıleaḋ é	He was beaten.

☞ When ṫú comes beside ıṙ it shakes off the dot: ṙ tu an ḟeaṙ.

The Prepositional Pronouns.

When a preposition comes before a personal pronoun it unites with it. Thus aṡ me becomes agam; aṡ tú becomes aṡat, &c. The combinations thus obtained are called prepositional pronouns. The following are important:—

aṡam (aṡ + me).

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
aṡam, at me.	aṡainn, at us.
aṡat, at thee, at you.	aṡaıḃ, at you.
aıṡe, aıcı, at him, at her.	acú, at them.
EMPHATIC.	
aṡamṙa, at me.	aṡainne, at us.
aṡatṙa, at thee.	aṡaıḃṙe, at you.
aıṡeṙan, aıcıṙe, at him, &c.	acúṙan, at them.
REFLEXIVE.	
aṡam-ḟéın, (at myself).	aṡainn-ḟéın.
aṡat-ḟéın,	aṡaıḃ-ḟéın.
aıṡe-ḟéın, aıcı-ḟéın,	acú-ḟéın.

liom (le + me).

liom, with me.	linn, with us.
leat, with thee.	libh, with you.
leıṙ, leıṫe, with him, &c.	leoḃṫa, leó, with them.

ORM (ar + me).

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
orm, on me.	orainn,* on us.
ort, on thee.	oraib, on you.
air, oirri, on him, on her.	orra, orra, on them.

IONNAIM (ann + me)

ionnaim, in me.	ionnainn, in us.
ionnat, in thee.	ionnaib, in you.
ann, innti, in him, in her.	ionntu, in them.

DAM (do + me).

dam, dom, to me.	duinn, to us.
duit, to thee.	duib, dib, to you.
do, duibe or di, to him, &c.	daoibh, doib, to them.

N.B.—The d of di is thick.

DIOM (de + me).

diom, from me.	dinn, from us.
diot, from thee.	dib, from you.
de, duibe or di, from him, &c.	diobh, from them.

Pronounced as follows:—

daom	daoinn
daot	daoib
dae, duibe or dui	daobh

ASAM (ar + me).

aram, out of me.	arainn, out of us.
arat, out of thee.	araib, out of you.
ar, airti, out of him, &c.	artu, arta, out of them.

---

* In most grammars we find a double n. We think one n sufficient.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.

ċuȝam (ċum + me).

ċuȝam, unto me.	ċuȝainn, unto us.
ċuȝat, unto thee.	ċuȝaiḃ, unto you.
ċuiȝe, ċuici, unto him, &c.	ċucú, ċuca, unto them.

Pronounce, huȝam, huȝat, &c.

fúm (faoi + me).

fúm, under me.	fúinn, under us.
fút, under thee.	fúiḃ, under you.
faoi, fúiṫe, under him, &c.	fúṫa, under them.

Also,

faom	faoinn
faot	faoiḃ
faoi, fuíṫe	faoḃṫa

uaiin (o + me).

uaim, from me.	uainn, from us.
uait, from thee.	uaiḃ, from you.
ua, uaiṫe, from him, &c.	uaḃṫa, from them.

eadram (idir + me).

eadram, between me.	eadrainn, between us.
eadrat, between thee.	eadraiḃ, between you.
idir é, í, between him, &c.	eatoru, between them.

roṁam (roime + me).

roṁam, before me.	roṁainn, before us.
roṁat, before thee.	roṁaiḃ, before you.
roime, roimpi, before him, &c.	romrú, before them.

ṫaram (ṫar + me).

ṫaram, over me.	ṫarainn, over us.
ṫarat, over thee.	ṫaraiḃ, over you.
ṫairis, ṫairsti, over him, &c.	ṫarsú, over them.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
TRÍOM (tré + me).	
tríom, through me.	trínn, through us.
tríot, through thee.	tríb, through you.
tríd, tríthe, through him.	tríobtha, through them.
FRÍOM (frí + me).	
fríom, through me.	fríonn, through us.
fríot, through thee.	fríb, through you.
frí, fríthe, through him, &c.	fríobtha, through them.
ANNSORM * (annsa + me).	
annsam, to me.	annsamaid, to us.
annsat, to thee.	annsamaib, to you.
annsa, annsaithi, to him, &c.	annsaidhe, to them.

The Possessive Adjectives.

The possessive adjectives are mo, my; do, thy; a, his, her, its; ar, our; bhur, your; and a, their. They cannot be used without the aid of a noun, and, when emphatic, the particle sa comes after the noun. When the noun is followed by one or more qualifying adjectives, the particle is affixed to the last adjective.

Of these adjectives, mo, do, and a (his), cause aspiration, while ar, bhur, and a (their), cause eclipsis in the noun, and prefix n in case the latter begins with a vowel. A, her, causes no change except in the case of words beginning with a vowel. See next Chapter.

mo chóirse agus mo chapaill	My coach and my horses.
do chóirse agus do chapaill	Thy coach and thy horses.
a chóirse agus a chapaill	His coach and his horses.

---

* annsam = ann + so + am.

a cóiṫe agus a capaill	Her coach and her horses.
ar g-cóiṫe agus ar g-capaill	Our coach and our horses.
bur g-cóiṫe agus bur g-capaill	Your coach and your horses.
a g-cóiṫe agus a g-capaill	Their coach and their horses.
mo ċapall mór bán-ṫa	*My* big white horse.

☞ Féin, as we have seen, means "self" when affixed to a personal pronoun, but when it is used with a possessive adjective, it means "own," as, mo ċapall mór féin, My own big horse.

THE POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE a.

a, his, aspirates: a bó, his cow.
a, her, does not: a bó, her cow.
a, their, eclipses: a m-bó, their cow.
} b. c. d. f. g. p. t

a, his, no change: a anam, his soul.
a, her, takes h: a h-anam, her soul.
a, their, takes n: a n-anam, their soul.
} Vowels.

a, his, aspirates: a ṁáiṫ, his fill.
a, her, no change: a ráiṫ, her fill.
a, their, no change; a ráiṫ, their fill.
} r and m.

a, his, no change: a náire, his shame.
a, her, do. a náire, her shame.
a, their do. a náire, their shame.
} l. n. r.

☞ When a simple preposition ending in a vowel comes before the possessive adjective a, his, her, their, or ar, our, n must be inserted between them:

o n-a ġrádh or o na ġrádh.	From his love.
faoi n-a coir or faoi na coir	Under her foot.
le n-a n-grádh or le na n-grádh	With their love.

Exception: do and de blend with the possessive:

Tabair feur da ċapall.	Give hay to his horse.
Bain geug da ċrann	Cut a branch from his tree.

ELISION OF O.

The vowel ó of mo and do is elided before a word beginning with a vowel or f.

m'athair agus m'fhear.	My father and my husband.
d'asal agus d'fhidéag.	Your donkey and your whistle.

☞ Translate do by "thy" or "your," and tú by "thou," or "you"; but never translate "you" by sibh when there is but one person in question.

Another Class of Adjective Pronouns.

The following adjective pronouns, which are very common, stand after their nouns:—Sagamsa, my; sagatsa, thy; saigeasan, his; saicse, her; sagainne, our; sagaibhse, your; sacasan, their. They are combinations of so, this, and the several parts of the prepositional pronoun agamsa.

Teach sagainne.	Our house.
Baile sagaibhse.	Your town.

Prepositional Adjectives.

The possessive adjectives mo, do, a, &c., often blend with the prepositions ann, in; do, to; le, with; and o, from. This rarely applies to ann except in idiomatic expressions, where a state is meant.

In my	= ann mo = mo.	To my	= do mo.
In thy	= ann do = do.	To thy	= do do.
In his	= ann a = na.	To his	= do a = da. *
In her	= ann a = na.	To her	= do a = da.
In our	= ann ar = nar.	To our	= do ar = dar.

* Da is also a contraction of de a = (1) of his (2) of which.

In your = ann bun = bun.	To your = do bun.
In their = ann a = na.	To their = do a = da.
With his (her, their) = le n-a = le na = lena.	
From his (her, their) = o n-a = o na = ona.	
Tá tú do caitin maith	You are a good girl.
Tá me mo codlad	I am sleeping.
Tá se na suidhe	He is sitting.
Tá sí na seasad	She is standing.
☞ Ann mo tír féin	In my own country.

The Relative Pronoun.

The relative pronouns are, a, who, which, that, and nach, who...not, which...not, that...not. [Noch, who, which, is classic]. They are indeclinable words, that is, they have the same form for all the cases. The following are examples of the different cases:—

THE NOMINATIVE CASE.

The man who eats bread	An fear a itheas aran.
The man who does not, &c.	An fear nach n-itheann aran.
The man who marries Norah	An fear a phósas Nóra.
The man who does not, &c.	An fear nach bh-phósann Nóra.
The man who struck James	An fear a bhuail Séamus.
The man who was striking J.	An fear a bhí ag bualadh Shéamuis.

THE ACCUSATIVE CASE.

The bread which I eat	An t-aran a ithim.
The bread which I do not eat	An t-aran nach n-ithim.
The egg which I break	An ubh a bhrisim.
The egg which I do not break	An ubh nach m-bhrisim.
The man whom Norah marries	An fear a phósas Nóra.
The man whom N. does not marry	An fear nach bh-phósann N.
The man whom James struck	An fear a bhuail Séamus.
The man whom J. was striking	An fear a bhí Séamus ag bualadh.*

* Transitive participles cannot govern nouns or pronouns in the accusative case, but they *can* govern the relative in that case. When ambiguity arises, as in "An fear a bhuail Séamus," the context alone will reveal the case.

THE GENITIVE CASE.

To distinguish the genitive from the other cases a partial idiom is used :—"The man whose house I sold," must not be turned, "the man of whom I sold *the* house," as in French, but, "The man of whom I sold *his* house," = An fear ar díol me a teach. The genitive of the relative is, therefore, revealed by the possessive adjective.

The hen whose foot I break	An ceaic a bhrim a cor.
The hen whose foot I do not, &c.	An ceaic nach m-bhrim a cor.
The hen whose foot Una breaks	An ceaic a bhrear Una a cor.
The hen whose foot U. does not, &c.	An ceaic nach m-bhreann U, &c.
The man whose cow I sold	An fear ar díol mé a bó.
The man whose cow I was selling	An fear a raib mé ag díol a bó.
The man whose foot was smashed	An fear ar bhreab a cor.
The man whose son was sick	An fear a raib a mhac tinn.

THE DATIVE CASE.

In the dative case a partial idiom is also used : "The man to whom I gave the cow" = The man to whom I gave *the* cow to *him* = An fear ar Tug mé an bó dó. This case is, therefore, revealed by a strengthening at the end of the relative clause in the shape of a prepositional pronoun.

Instead of using the idiom most grammarians place a pure preposition before the relative which they make it govern,* a practice which is not entirely supported by the classics, while it is almost generally ignored in the spoken language. Ambiguous expressions like

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* This takes place, principally, when translating the English "have."

The man who has big feet	An fear air a b-fuil cora mór.
The man who has a cow	An fear aig a b-fuil bó.

the following must surely be considered faulty : An fear dar bain mé an sgian = the man from whom I took the knife ; An fear dar tug me an sgian = the man to whom I gave the knife, &c. Of course, we have a few amalgamations of the relative and the prepositions, principally in connection with the verb ir. such as, fear darb ainm Fionn, but these are rare exceptions. It is, therefore, better to accept modern usage as being the clearest and most correct all round.

A man to whom I gave a cow	fear air tug mé bó dó.
A man to whom I was giving a cow	fear a raib me ag tabairt bó dó.
A man from whom I took a cow	fear air bain mé bó dé.
A man from whom I was taking, &c.	fear a raib mé ag baint bó dé.
A stool on which I broke an egg	Stól air brir mé ub air.

When tá is an auxiliary verb its primary and secondary forms may be used after the dative case of the relative a; but when it is not an auxiliary the secondary forms (ö fuil and raib) only may be used.

fear a raib mé ag caint air fear a bí mé ag caint air	* A man about whom I was speaking.
fear a b-fuil mé ag caint air fear atá mé ag caint air	A man about whom I am speaking.
fear a raib cú aige	A man who had a hound.
fear a b-fuil cú aige	A man who has a hound.
fear a bí cú aige fear ata cú aige	bad.

Functions of the Relative.

(1) It always stands before the verb, and in affirmative sentences a aspirates the initial of the verb—the

* In "raib...ag caint," "raib" is auxiliary.

sign of the perfect tense being omitted, except in the case of words beginning with a vowel sound.

fear a tógar cloch	A man who lifts a stone.
fear a tóg cloch	A man who lifted a stone.
fear a d'ól uisge	A man who drank water.

☞ Never aspirate Tá or deir; An té ata; an té a deir. *

(2) In negative sentences nach eclipses the initial of the verb, except in the perfect tense where no prevents it.

fear nach dtuigim	A man whom I do not understand.
fear nar thuig mé	A man whom I did not understand.
fear nach n-ólann	A man who does not drink.

(3) The relative a sometimes means "all that," "all who," "all which," in which cases it eclipses—except, of course, in the perfect tense. In these cases it sometimes blends with do and de.

a g-caitim 'ran lá	All that I spend per day.
a g-caitinn 'ran lá	All that I spent per day.
ar chaith mé 'ran lá	All that I spent per day.
a bhfuil a n-Eirinn	All that is (or are) in Erin.
a bhfuil de arán agam	All the bread that I have.
Da bhfuil a n-Eirinn	Of all that is (or are) in Erin.
lá dar eirigh Fionn	One day that Finn arose.

la dar = la de a no = (On) a day of which, &c.

☞ In relative sentences remember (1) that the principal verb should come first, and (2) that when a relative clause is equivalent to an adjective it is inseparable from the subject. Thus, "The man who is like me lifted the stone," is neither, Tóg an fear an

* The a in the classic adeirim is probably the relative a; it may have crept in like the a in ata, which is undoubtedly the relative.

ċloċ aṫá coṙaṁail liom-ṙa (=The man lifted the stone which is like me!), nor, An ṙeaṙ aṫá coṙaṁail liom-ṙa ṫóṡ an ċloċ, but, Ṫóṡ an ṙeaṙ aṫá coṙaṁail liom-ṙa an ċloċ. By a slight idiomatic change, however, we can say, An ṙeaṙ aṫá coṙaṁail liom-ṙa ṫoṡ ṙé an ċloċ. Observe the following :—

He killed the curly-tailed cat=
He killed the cat with the curly tail=
He killed the cat which had the curly tail=
He killed the cat *on* which was the curly tail=
Mṁaṗḃ ṙé an caṫ a ṅaiḃ an ṅaḃall * caṙṫa aiṙ.

The Relative Form of the Verb.

As may be seen from preceding examples, there is a special form of the verb, which is sometimes used after the relative a. The student should note that this form can only be used in the present and future tenses and that it is never used after naċ, which requires the habitual form where possible. This special form, which ends in ar for the present tense, and ṙaṙ for the future, is used as follows :—

(1) In the present tense, it is used after all cases of the relative a, except when the subject of the verb is a personal pronoun, when the habitual form is often used :—

An ṙeaṙ a ólaṙ uiṙġe	The man who drinks water.
An ṙeaṙ a ṗóṙaṙ nóṁa	The man whom Norah marries.
An ḃó a ólaṙ N. a ḃaine	The cow whose milk N. drinks.
Aṙan a ċuiṙeaṙ N. im aiṙ	Bread on which N. puts butter.
An ṫ-aṙan a ıṫim	The bread which I eat.
An ṙíon a ólann ṙé	The wine which he drinks.
Ceaṙc a ḃṙiṙim a coṙ	A hen whose foot I break.
Aṙan a ċuiṙeann ṙé im aiṙ	Bread on which he puts butter.

* This is the modern and contracted form of íaṙḃall.

(2) In the future tense, the relative is used in all cases. This is, perhaps, due to the fact that, in the future, there is no habitual form.

An fear a tógfar cloch	The man who will lift a stone.
An cloch a tógfar Nóra	The stone which N. will lift.
Fear a pósfar N. a mac	A man whose son N. will marry.
Fear a casfar N. póra dó	A man for whom N. will twist a rope.
An fíon a ólfar mise	The wine which I shall drink.
An cloch a tógfar tú	The stone which you will lift.
Bó a brisfear tú a cos	A cow whose foot you will break.
Arán a cuirfear ré im air	Bread on which he will put butter.

Sometimes, as in English, the relative is omitted when it is the direct object of the verb, but its aspirating power remains.

An bia do caitear Máire	The food Mary uses.
An bia a caitear Máire	The food which Mary uses.
An bó iarrfar Nóra orm	The cow Norah asks of me.
An bó a iarrfar Nóra orm	The cow which Norah asks of me.

Relative sentences of the following kind are rendered idiomatically :—"It is for you *that* Finn asks a wife" = It is for you *for whom* Finn asks a wife = Is duit-se a iarrfar Fionn bean. The relative is often omitted in examples of this kind, viz.: after a dative case or a prepositional pronoun. But this should not be encouraged when writing.

Is orm-sa iarrfar mo mhadair an t-airgead
Is orm-sa a iarrfar mo mhadair an t-airgead

Is ort-sa tiocfar an náire, a Sheagain
Is ort-sa a tiocfar an náire, a Sheagain

Is air Mháire cuirfear mé an hata úr
Is air Mháire a cuirfear mé an hata úr

Is do Mháire tógfar mise an t-uisge
Is do Mhaire a tógfar mise an t-uisge

It is from me *that* * my mother asks the money.
It is on you *that* * the shame will come, John.
It is on Norah *that* * I shall put the new hat.
It is for Mary *that* * I shall lift the water.

The relative form of the verb is sometimes used in the classics to express the historic present; that is, the present tense used for the past. The writer is of opinion that it cannot be used when the subject (expressed) is a personal pronoun, and that in other cases it is optional. The relative not being present. no aspiration occurs.

Ann sin suidear Fionn,	Then Finn sits,
Agus iarrar soitheach.	And asks a vessel.
Ann sin séidid sé an teinne.	Then he blows the fire.
Leis sin buailid nóra é.	Thereupon Norah strikes him.

Modern grammarians are of opinion that the relative form of the verb is even used as an ordinary present, But it is evident from the preceding examples that they are in error. In, Is ann a bhóidh cuireadh Séamus an t-im, for example, they ignore the invisible presence of the relative before cuireadh, and, to make things worse, they do not say a single word about the aspiration, which, as seen in preceding examples, does not occur in the historic present. We say, Is agat atá sé, but when we say, Is agat tá sé, we, at once, perceive that something is missing. The explanation of this is, that the word tá is never aspirated, and hence, to make up for the deficiency, the relative must be expressed. This goes to prove that the relative is understood in examples of the kind quoted, and that

* Modern grammarians carefully omit this word, as well as its Irish equivalent.

the relative form of the verb is *not* used as an ordinary present tense.

THE RELATIVE FORM OF TÁ.

The relative forms of tá are dʼfhéadfadh (or dʼfhiadh) and dʼéadfadh. The present tense form, dʼfhéadfadh, is always used with a habitual meaning.

fear atá maith	Men who are good.
fear a dhéadfadh maith	Men who are wont to be good.
fear nach bhfuil maith	Men who are not good.
fear nach mbíodhann maith	Men who are not wont, &c.
fear a bhéadfadh maith	Men who will be good.
fear nach mbéidh maith	Men who will not be good.

N.B.—The relative and tá often unite: An té atá.

☞ "He who," "she who," "the person who" = An té a, or an duine a.

"They who," "the people who" = Na daoine a, or an muintir a.

Frequent Use of the Relative.

The use of the relative pronoun is explained by modern grammarians in a rather summary way. This little word does far more duty than it gets credit for. It is advanced, for example, that ful, nuair, mar, &c., aspirate the initials of verbs. The fact is that it is the relative a, understood, that causes the aspiration, and as a proof of this the relative form of the verb is used as Nuair thiocfar Una, when Una comes. In speaking the relative is usually heard, and in writing it should be expressed, as a general rule, thus:—

Sul a thiocfar una	Before (that) Una comes.
Nuair a thiocfar una	The time (that) Una comes.
Mar a thiocfar una	The manner (in which) Una will come.

Nuair is a contracted form for An uair, the hour, the time, and hence, when. The relative is used after numerous expressions of this kind, as, Ca n-áit a gcuirfear tú é? Where will you put it? Is minic a itear Máire, It is often that Mary eats; Is iomdaid uair a gcaoineas an leanb, It is many a time that the child cries, &c. From these examples we may infer that the relative is always used after the impersonal is.

Is ag an doras atá me	It is at the door that I am.
Is ag caonadh a béidheas tú	It is crying that you will be.
Is eim a bí an eagla!	It is I that was afraid!
An tú-féin atá ann?	Is it yourself that is in it?
Is tú a beidheas liom	It is you that will be with me.

The Demonstrative Pronouns.

(*a*) The demonstrative pronouns are so, this; sin, that; and sud, yonder. The same forms are used for the plural.

Eat this and leave that	Ith so agus fág sin.
Lift yonder-thing,* James	Tóg sud a Shéamuis.
This is very funny	Tá so an-ghreannmhar.
Yonder-thing is used	Tá sud caite.

(*b*) When there is a noun with the demonstrative the following takes place:—(1) The article must be used with the noun, (2) the demonstrative is placed after the noun, (3) if the noun is followed by one or more adjectives the demonstrative comes last, (4) sud becomes ud.

Sell this cow	Díol an bó so.
Lift these knives	Tóg na sgiana so.
This big tall man	An fear mór áird so.
Yonder man is blind	Ta an fear ud caoch.

* The adjective "yon" or "yonder" cannot be used in English without a noun, but its Irish equivalent sud *can* stand by itself. Hence, *Lift "yon"* would be more correct.

☞ ud often takes the form of udai or adai.

Yonder cow is eating	Tá an bó adai ag ite.
The cow is over yonder	Ta an bó fiar adai.

(*c*) Referring to a person or thing mentioned before, the demonstrative must be accompanied by a corresponding personal pronoun, or some word such as ceann.

This one is crooked	Tá sé so cam.
That one is straight	Ta an ceann sin díreach.
These are broken	Ta siad so briste.
Leave those here	Fág iad sin ann so.

☞ "This fellow," "that fellow," "yonder fellow," &c. = se so, se sin, se sud, &c.; feminine, sí so, sí sin, sí sud. Note also the following:—

Here is a cow	= is so bó	contracted to so bó.
Here are the cows	= is so na ba	,, so na ba.
There is a man	= is sin fear	,, sin fear.
Yonder is a man	= is sud fear	,, sud fear.

The Interrogative Pronouns.

(*a*) The interrogative pronouns are cia? or cé? who? ceoca? which? ca? where? or what? go dé? (or cad é?) what? All these come first in the sentence. Ca? causes eclipsis:

Cé sinne so? Cé dia?	Who did this? Who is God?
Cé tu-féin? Ce sin?	Who are you? Who is that?
Ca m-bideann tú?	Where do you be?
C' ainm atá ort?	What is your name?
Ca n-áit a b-fuil tú?	Where are you?

Cá b-fuil tú ag dul? *	Where are you going?
Go dé dubairt tú?	What did you say?
Go dé mar tá tú?	How are you?
Cá h-ar tú, a mhic?	Where are you from, my son?
Ar bailе Cliath mé.	I am from Dublin. (I belong to D.)
Cia leis tú?	Who owns you? Whose son are you?
Cia leis an teach so?	Who owns this house?

(*b*) When "which?" is followed by "of" we must use de and a dative in the case of nouns, and ag in the case of pronouns.

Which of the women?	Ceoca de na mnaibh?
Which of the cows?	Ceoca de na ba?
Which of us?	Ceoca againn?
Which of you?	Ceoca agaibh?

☞ Ceoca or ceocú or ciaca = cia + aca.

Observe the following:—

Cé é? or Cé e-féin?	Who is he?
Cé í? or Cé í-féin?	Who is she?
Cé iad? or Cé iad-féin;	Who are they?
Cé sin?	Who is that, *i.e.*, who is there?
Cé é sin?	Who is (he) that?
Cé í sin?	Who is (she) that?
Cé iad sin?	Who are (they) those?
Cé h-é an fear sin?	Who is (he) that man?
Cé h-í an bean sin?	Who is (she) that woman?
Cé h-iad na fir sin?	Who are (they) those men?
Cé 'n fear é sin?	What man is (he) that?
Cé 'n bean í sin?	What woman is (she) that?
Cé na fir iad sin?	What men are (they) those?

N.B.—Note that after the interrogative cé or cia, the pronouns é, í, iad prefix h when the article follows.

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* Usually pronounced "*Cowl thoo gol?*" or "*Cōwĭll thoo gol?*"

The Indefinite Pronouns.

aon, single	gach uile, every
air bith / ar bith } any	inteacht / éigin } some, certain.
an uile, every	an té, he, who.
uilig, uile } all	cibé, whoever
	ceachtar, either.
gach / gach aon } each, every	a chéile, each other

N.B.—Gach uile and gach aon are usually pronounced a chuile and achan. Ceachtar with a negative verb = neither, ní fuil ceachtar acu agam, I have neither of them. Cibé is followed by the relative, as, Cibe a thiocfar, whoever comes, or whoever will come; Cibé fear a thiocfar, whatever man comes. Air bith, uilig, uile, inteacht, and éigin follow the noun.

The Verb.

As may be noticed below, some of the forms of the verb contain the pronoun, subject, as, pósaim, I marry; such forms are said to be *synthetic*. When the pronoun subject is not contained in the verb, as pósann se, he marries, the forms are said to be *analytic*. It may, also, be noticed that the synthetic forms are declining rapidly.

There are two conjugations in Irish. The first comprises verbs which have only one syllable in the root, as pós, marry; all other verbs, as a general rule, belong to the second conjugation.

First Conjugation.

THE REGULAR VERB, pórṁaim, I MARRY.

ACTIVE VOICE.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

Present Tense.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1. pórṁaim (I marry)	pórṁann ṁinn.
2. pórṁann tú	pórṁann ṁib.
3. pórṁann sé	pórṁann ṁad.

Negative.

Ní bpórṁaim (I do not marry)	Ní bpórṁann ṁinn.
Ní bpórṁann tú	Ní bpórṁann ṁib.
Ní bpórṁann sé	Ní bpórṁann ṁad.

Interrogative.

B-pórṁaim ? (Do I marry ?)	B-pórṁann ṁinn ?
B-pórṁann tú ?	B-pórṁann ṁib ?
B-pórṁann se ?	B-pórṁann ṁad ?

Interrogative Negative.

Nach b-pórṁaim ? (Do I not marry ?)	Nach b-pórṁann ṁinn ?
Nach b-pórṁann tú ?	Nach b-pórṁann ṁib ?
Nach b-pórṁann sé ?	Nach b-pórṁann ṁad.

Dependent.

Go b-pórṁaim (That I marry)	Go b-pórṁann ṁinn.
Go b-pórṁann tú	Go b-pórṁann ṁib.
Go b-pórṁann sé	Go b-pórṁann ṁad.

Dep. Negative.

Nach b-pórṁaim (That I do not marry)	Nach b-pórṁann ṁinn.
Nach b-pórṁann tú	Nach b-pórṁann ṁib.
Nach b-pórṁann sé	Nach b-pórṁann ṁad ?

Emphatic.

póraim-re (I marry.)	pórann sinne.
pórann tusa	pórann sibhse.
pórann seisean	pórann siadsan.

Reflexive.

póraim-féin (I myself marry)	pórann sinn-féin.
pórann tú-féin	pórann sibh-féin.
pórann sé-féin	pórann siad-féin.

Historic Present.

To make their descriptions more vivid, historians and other writers often use the present tense where the past would ordinarily be used. In English there is no change, but in Irish there is a special form of the verb for this historic present tense. In fact it is met with so often in the written language that modern grammarians have mistaken it for the ordinary present.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
pórfaim (I marry)	pórfaidh sinn.
pórfaidh tú	pórfaidh sibh.
pórfaidh sé	pórfaidh siad.

Classic Present.

We may now contrast the modern forms of the present tense with those of the classic. The parts in brackets are dead to most Irish speakers, so that only one synthetic form remains universally understood. The student will please note the difference between the ancient and modern forms of the different tenses as he passes through this verb; the distinction will not be made in other verbs.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
pórann (I marry)	[póramaoid.]
[póraid]	[pór tadi.]
pórann sé	[póraid.]

Imperfect Tense.

pórainn (I used to marry)	pórad sinn.
pórta	pórad sib.
pórad sé	pórad siad.

Negative.	Ní pórainn.	I used not to marry.
Interrog.	D-pórainn?	Used I marry?
Interrog. Neg.	Nach d-pórainn?	Used I not marry?
Dependent.	Go d-pórainn.	That I used to marry
Dep. Neg.	Nach d-pórainn.	That I did not marry

Emphatic.

pórainn-se (I used to marry)	pórad sinne
pórta tusa*	pórad sibse.
pórad* seasan	pórad siadsan.

Reflexive.

pórainn-féin (I myself, &c.)	pórad sinn-féin.
pórta-fein	pórad sib-féin.
pórad sé-féin	pórad siad-fein

Classic Imperfect.

As may be seen, this tense, as well as the conditional, has not changed in the singular.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1. pórainn (I used to marry)	[póramaoir.]
2. pórta	[portaoi.]
3. pórad sé	[poraidir.]

* Not pórta-sa. pórad is pronounced fórú. The ending ad is often pronounced id when followed by sé, sí, siad. cp. forfaid me *fr.* forhim ă.

Perfect Tense.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
Þóɾ me (I married)	Þóɾ ɾinn.
Þóɾ tú	Þóɾ ɾiḃ.
Þóɾ ɾe	Þóɾ ɾiaɒ.

Negative.	Níoɲ þóɾ me.	I did not marry.
Interrogative.	Aɲ þóɾ me ?	Did I marry ?
Interrog. Neg.	Naɲ þóɾ me ?	Did I not marry ?
Dependent.	Guɲ þóɾ me.	That I married.
Depen. Neg.	Naɲ þóɾ me.	That I did not marry.
Emphatic.	Þóɾ miɾe.	*I* married.
Reflexive.	Þóɾ me-féin.	I myself married.

Classic Perfect.

[Do þóɾaɾ] (I married)	[Do þóɾamaɲ.]
[Do þóɾaiɾ]	[Do þóɾaḃaɲ.]
[Do] þóɾ ɾe	[Do þóɾaɒaɲ.]

Future Tense.

Þóɾfaiḋ me (I shall marry)	Þóɾfaiḋ ɾinn
Þóɾfaiḋ tú	Þóɾfaiḋ ɾiḃ.
Þóɾfaiḋ ɾe	Þóɾfaiḋ ɾiaɒ.

Pronounce as follows :—

Þóɾhĭm ă	Þóɾhă ɾinn.
Þóɾhă tú	Þóɾhă ɾiḃ.
Þóɾhă ɾhă *	Þóɾhă ɾiaɒ.

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* When emphatic þóɾhí ɾé. When not followed by a pronoun, as in replies, *pr.* þóɾhí (paws'-hee).

Negative.	Ní póṙṙaiḋ me.	I will not marry.
Interrogative.	Ḃ-póṙṙaiḋ me ?	Shall I marry ?
Interrog. Neg.	Naċ ḃ-póṙṙaiḋ me?	Shall I not marry ?
Dependent.	Ꝺo ḃ-póṙṙaiḋ me.	That I shall marry.
Dep. Neg.	Naċ ḃ-póṙṙaiḋ me.	That I shall not marry

CLASSIC FUTURE.

póṙṙaḋ (I shall marry)	póṙṙamuiḋ.
[póṙṙaiṙ]	[póṙṙaiḋ.]
póṙṙaiḋ ṙe	[póṙṙaiḋ.]

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

ṗóṙṙainn* (I would marry)	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙinn.
ṗóṙṙa	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙiḃ.
ṗóṙṙaḋ* ṙe	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙiaḋ.

Emphatic.

ṗóṙṙainn-ṙe (I would marry)	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙinne.
ṗóṙṙa ṫuṙa	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙiḃṙe.
ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙeṙeaṅ	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙiaḋṙaṅ.

Reflexive.

ṗóṙṙainn-ḟéin (I myself, &c.)	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙinn-ḟéin.
ṗóṙṙa-ḟéin	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙiḃ-ḟéin.
ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙe-ḟéin	ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙiaḋ-ḟéin.

Negative.	Ní ṗóṙṙainn.	I would not marry.
Interrogative.	Ḃ-póṙṙainn ?	Would I marry ?
Inter. Neg.	Naċ ḃ-póṙṙainn?	Would I not marry ?
Dependent.	Ꝺo ḃ-póṙṙainn.	That I would marry.
Dep. Neg.	Naċ ḃ-póṙṙainn.	That I would not marry.

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* Sound ṙ as h. The ending ṙaḋ is usually pronounced *hoo*, but when ṙaḋ is followed by ṙé, ṙí, ṙinn, ṙiḃ, or ṙiaḋ the sound of ṙaḋ + ṙ = *hitch* ; as, ṗóṙṙaḋ ṙinn, *pr. faws'-hitch-inn.*

CLASSIC CONDITIONAL.

Pórfainn (I would marry)	[Pórfamaoir.]
Pórfa	[Pórfaiḋ.]
Pórfaḋ re	[Pórfaḋaoir.]

OPTATIVE MOOD.

Go b-pórfaiḋ* me! (May I marry!)	Go b-pórfaiḋ finn!
Go b-pórfaiḋ tú!	Go b-pórfaiḋ sibh!
Go b-pórfaiḋ sé!	Go b-pórfaiḋ siad!

N.B.—This form is often used after go, *until.*

SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

The present subjunctive is usually expressed by the present and future forms of the verb preceded by such words as ma, if; go, until, &c., as, Ma pórann se Máire taḃair cuid maiṫ ḋo, If he marries Mary give him a good fortune. Fan go b-pórfaiḋ sé í, Wait till he marries her.

The imperfect subjunctive is expressed by the conditional preceded by ḋá, if; as, ḋá b-pórfainn, If I should marry.

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1. ———	Póramuid.
2. Pór (Marry)	Póraiḋiḋ† or póraigiḋ.
3. Póraḋ se	Póraḋ siad.

Neg. Na pór, &c.

*When the root ends in id or ig, which have both the same sound í or id, another id is unnecessary. Hence, go d-téid tú! May you go! Go m-beannuig Dia ḋuit! May God bless you!

† By imitation from verbs of second conjugation; *e.g.* the classic imperative of gairmiġim is gairmiġiḋ. In trying to sound aig+id, people found it easier to pronounce aig+id, and hence the modern word is gairmigiḋ. This is imitated in the first conjugation. [See ta.]

CLASSIC IMPERATIVE.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1. ———	[póramaoir].
2. pór	[póraidh].
3. pórad re	[póraidir].

INFINITIVE MOOD.

A pórad	to marry.

PARTICIPLES.

Ag pórad	marrying.
Air b-pórad	having married.

Passive Voice.

In the passive voice, the affected or accusative forms of the personal pronoun are used as subject. The negatives, interrogatives, dependents, etc., are formed in the usual way except in the perfect tense.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Pórtar mé (I am being married)	Pórtar finn.
Pórtar tú	Pórtar fib.
Pórtar é	Pórtar iad.

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE.

Pórtaí mé (I used to be married)	Pórtaí finn.
Pórtaí tú	Pórtaí fib.
Pórtaí é	Pórtaí iad.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Pórfaidhe mé (I would be married)	Pórfaidhe finn.
Pórfaidhe tú	Pórfaidhe fib.
Pórfaidhe é	Pórfaidhe iad.

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

pórfar mé (I shall be married)	pórfar rinn.
pórfar tu	pórfar rib.
pórfar é	pórfar iad.

PERFECT TENSE.

pórad me (I was married).	pórad rinn.
pórad tú	pórad rib.
pórad é	pórad iad.

Perfect, Negative, Interrog., etc.

Níor pórad mé	I was not married?
Ar pórad mé?	Was I married?
Nar pórad mé?	Was I not married?
Gur pórad mé	That I was married.
Nar pórad mé	That I was not married.

☞ Although no is used, no aspiration.

INFINITIVE AND PARTICIPLES.

A beit pórta	to be married.
pórta	married.

N.B.—(1) The imperative is the same as the present indicative.

(2) The following express a state rather than action.

Tá mé pórta	I am married.
Bídinn pórta	I used to be married.
Bí mé pórta	I was married.
Béid me pórta.	I shall be married.

THE REGULAR VERB, bRISIM, I BREAK.

Active Voice.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

bRIM (I break)	bREANN SINN.
bREANN TÚ	bREANN SIB.
bREANN SE.	bREANN SIAD.

IMPERFECT.

bRINN (I used to break)	bREADH SINN.
bRÉA	bREADH SIB.
bREADH SE	bREADH SIAD.

PERFECT.

bRIS me (I broke)	bRIS SINN.
bRIS TÚ	bRIS SIB.
bRIS SÉ	bRIS SIAD.

FUTURE.

bRISFIDH me* (I shall break)	bRISFIDH SINN.
bRISFIDH TÚ	bRISFIDH SIB.
bRISFIDH SE	bRISFIDH SIAD.

CONDITIONAL.

bRISFINN (I would break)	bRISFEADH SINN.
bRISFEA	bRISFEADH SIB.
bRISFEADH SE	bRISFEADH SIAD.

IMPERATIVE, INFINITIVE, &C.

bRIS, break; plural, bRISIDH or bRISIGH.

A bREADH, to break.

AG bREADH, breaking.

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* Pronounce bRISHIM ă, bRISHĂ TÚ, &c.

The Same Verb in Classic Style.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Bhrisim (I break)	[Bhrisimid.]
[Bhrisir]	[Bhristí.]
Bhriseann sé	[Bhrisid.]

IMPERFECT.

Bhrisinn (I used to break)	[Bhrisimis.]
Bhristeá	[Bhristí.]
Bhriseadh sé	[Bhrisidis.]

PERFECT.

[Do bhriseas] (I broke)	[Do bhriseamar.]
[Do bhrisis]	[Do bhriseabhas.]
[Do] bhris sé.	[Do bhriseadas.]

FUTURE.

Bhrisfead (I shall break)	Bhrisfimid.
[Bhrisfir]	[Bhrisfidh.]
Bhrisfidh sé	[Bhrisfid.]

CONDITIONAL.

Bhrisfinn (I would break)	[Bhrisfimis.]
Bhrisfeá	[Bhrisfidh.]
Bhrisfeadh sé	[Bhrisfidis.]

IMPERATIVE, INFINITIVE, &c.

Bris (break); plural [Brisidh.]

Do bhreadh, to break.

Ag bhreadh, breaking.

Initial Influence of Verbs.

All verbs of the first conjugation are conjugated like póṙaim or bṗṙim, and all verbs whose initial is b, c, d, g, p or t, are influenced in the same way. Other verbs, however, are influenced differently. For example, the usual way to ask a question is to eclipse the initial of the verb, as, d'tuigeann tú? do you understand? It is the interrogative particle, an, that causes the eclipsis here, and in all such cases the particle itself will be invisible. It may also be remarked that in all cases where eclipsis would take place, a vowel is preceded by n, as n-ólann tu? do you drink? But l, m, n, ṗ, ṙ, of verbs, are never eclipsed, so that the interrogative particle in these cases must appear, as, an ṙéideann ṙe? does it blow? This interrogative particle, an, and its eclipsing effect may be compared to A and B playing "see-saw." When A (an) goes down B (effect) goes up, and *vice versa.*

The particle do aspirates in the imperfect, perfect, and conditional, but it is visible before vowels and ḟ only. The following examples will explain more fully:—

ólaim, I DRINK.

PRESENT TENSE.

Affirmative.	Ólaim,	I drink.
Negative.	Ní ólaim,	I do not drink.
Interrogative.	N-ólaim?	Do I drink?
Interrog. Neg.	Nach n-ólann tú?	Do you not drink?

IMPERFECT.

Affirmative.	D'ólainn,	I used to drink.
Negative.	Ní ólainn,	I used not to drink.
Interrogative.	N-ólainn?	Used I drink?

PERFECT.

Affirmative.	D'ól me,	I drank.
Negative.	Níor ól me,	I did not drink.
Interrogative.	Ar ól me?	Did I drink.

Fágaim, I LEAVE.

PRESENT TENSE.

Affirmative.	Fágaim,	I leave.
Negative.	Ní fágaim,	I do not leave.
Interrogative.	B-fágaim?	Do I leave?

IMPERFECT.

Affirmative.	D'fágainn,	I used to leave.
Negative.	Ní fágainn,	I used not to leave.
Interrogative.	B-fágainn?	Used I leave?

PERFECT.

Affirmative.	D'fág me,	I left.
Negative.	Níor fág me,	I did not leave.
Interrogative.	Ar fág me?	Did I leave?

Róraim, I ROAST.

Present:—Róraim; ní róraim; an róraim?
Imperf.:—Rórainn; ní rórainn; an rórainn?
Perfect:—Ror me; níor ror me; ar ror me?

Séidim, I BLOW.

Present :—Séidim ; ní féidim ; an féidim ?
Imperf. :—Séidinn ; ní féidinn ; an féidinn ?
Perfect :—Séid me ; níor féid me ; ar féid me ?

Scairtim, I CALL.

Present :—Scairtim ; ní scairtim ? an scairtim ?
Imperf. :—Scairtinn ; ní scairtinn ; an scairtinn ?
Perfect :—Scairt me ; níor scairt me ; ar scairt me?

Lúbaim, I BEND.

Present :—Lúbaim ; ní lúbaim ; an lúbaim ?
Imperf :—Lúbainn ; ní lúbainn ; an lúbainn ?
Perfect :—Lúb me ; níor lúb me ; ar lúb me ?

Second Conjugation.

The second conjugation comprises verbs whose root has at least two syllables. It differs from the first conjugation principally in the formation of the future and conditional.

THE REGULAR VERB gortuighim.

Indicative Mood.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1. gortuighim (I hurt)	gortuigheann sinn.
2. gortuigheann tú	gortuigheann sibh.
3. gortuigheann sé	gortuigheann siad.

IMPERFECT.

gortuighinn (I used to hurt)	gortuigheadh sinn.
gortuighthea	gortuigheadh sibh.
gortuigheadh se	gortuigheadh siad.

PERFECT.

Gortuiġ me (I hurt)	Gortuiġ rinn.
Gortuiġ tú	Gortuiġ ríb.
Gortuiġ re	Gortuiġ riad.

FUTURE.

Gortoċaiḋ me* (I shall hurt)	Gortoċaiḋ rinn.*
Gortoċaiḋ tú	Gortoċaiḋ ríb.
Gortoċaiḋ re	Gortoċaiḋ riad.

CONDITIONAL.

Gortoċainn (I would hurt)	gortoċaḋ rinn.
Gortoċa	gortoċaḋ ríb.
Gortoċaḋ re	gortoċaḋ riad.

IMPERATIVE.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1.	———	Gortuiġmid [Gortuiġmir.]
2.	Gortuiġ	Gortuiġiḋ.†
3.	Gortuiġeaḋ re	Gortuiġeaḋ riad.

INFINITIVE AND PARTICIPLE.

A gortuġaḋ, to hurt.
Ag gortuġaḋ, hurting.
Air n-gortuġaḋ, having hurt.

☞ The optative is go n-gortuiġ me!

---

* Also Gortoċaḋ; Gortoċamuid.

† The classic form is Gortuiġiḋ, which, being difficult to pronounce, is now written gortuiġiḋ.

Passive Voice.

Present.	Gortuiġtear mé,	I am being hurt.
Imperfect.	Gortuiġti mé,	I used to be hurt.
Perfect.	Gortuiġeadh mé,	I was hurt.
Future.	Gortoċar mé,	I shall be hurt.
Condit.	Gortoċaiḋe mé,	I would be hurt.
Infinitive.	A ḃeiṫ gortuiġṫe,	to be hurt.
Participle.	Gortuiġṫe,	hurt.
Imperative.	Same as present.	

Remarks.

(1.) Muid is sometimes used as a synthetic ending in the past tense, as ; ṗórmuiḋ, we married.

(2.) When the initial of a verbal termination is ṫ it becomes ṫ in all verbs whose root terminates in ḃ, c, g, m, p, or r, and ġ of verbs in iġ of the second conjugation ; as lúḃṫa, bent, ḃogṫa, softened, intoxicated, cuirṫa, buried, gradúiġṫe, loved, etc. In other cases ṫ is not influenced, as, ordaiḋe, brúiġṫe, croċta, iṫṫe, molta, carta, etc.

(3.) In the first conjugation the characteristic mark of the future and of the conditional is f, which is usually pronounced h. In the second conjugation f is not used, but instead, the root ending, uiġ or iġ, is changed into oċ or eoċ. Verbs of the second conjugation not ending in uiġ or iġ are usually syncopated

and then add oċ or eoċ. The following are important :—

ROOT.	PRESENT.	FUTURE.
gortuiġ, hurt	gortuiġim	gortoċaiḋ me.
cuimṅiġ, remember	cuimṅiġim	cuimneoċaiḋ me.
díriġ, straighten	díriġim	díreoċaiḋ me.
corcaim, cost	cornaim	cornoċaiḋ me.
tairrgingim, draw	tairingim	tairneoċaiḋ me.
innis, tell	innsim	innseoċaiḋ me.
forgail, open	forglaim	forgloċaiḋ me.

N.B.—labair makes labarfaiḋ me for the future and labarfainn for the conditional—Pronounced lóis, lóisim ă, lóisinn.

The Verbal Noun and Present Participle.

Words which are usually called verbal nouns in English have, as seen below, two distinct meanings.

As Participles.

Growing = *growing* = ag fás.
Moving = *moving* = ag bogaḋ.
Playing = *playing* = ag imirt.
Stealing = *stealing* = ag goid.

As Verbal Nouns.

Growing = *growth* = fás.
Moving = *motion* = bogaḋ.
Playing = *play* = imirt.
Stealing = *theft* = goiḋ.

As seen in these examples, the English verbal noun has the characteristic mark "ing," just like the participle. This "ing," in the participle, indicates action,

while, in the verbal noun, it merely indicates the name of action. In Irish, the participle sign is ag, and corresponds to "ing" in the English participle. We see, also, that the Irish verbal noun has not the verbal sign, which leaves it without any verbal force.

All the so-called verbal nouns are, therefore, nouns pure and simple. They have not the merest fraction of the essential quality of a verb, which is action. They have, of course, shape and form, like a man deprived of life, but shape or form and action have no essential quality in common. It is plain, then, that a participle is not a verbal noun, nor a verbal noun a participle. We may also add that an infinitive is neither a verbal noun nor a participle.

Use of the Verbal Noun and Participle.

(*a*) The Irish verbal noun is limited to the power of any other noun; that is, it can govern another noun that follows it in the genitive case. Hence, we say bogad láimhe in the same way that we say dath láimhe.

Raibh tú ag baisteadh an leinbh?
Raibh tú ag marbhadh na circe?
Raibh tú ag briseadh na fuinneoige?
Raibh tú ag buinn an féir?
Raibh tú ag tigh Shéamuis?

Were you at the baptising of the child?
Were you at the killing of the hen?
Were you at the breaking of the window?
Were you at the mowing of the hay?
Were you at the house of James?

(*b*) The regular ending of the present participle is ag, but its distinguishing mark is ag (not aig, which is generally used before *nouns* in preference to ag). Before a consonant ag often becomes 'a in speaking, and sometimes it is omitted altogether, but this should not be encouraged in writing. The present participle governs a following noun in the genitive.

Tá sé ag baisteadh an leinb.
Tá sé ag marbhadh na circe.
Tá sé ag bhriseadh na fuinneoige.
Tá sé ag buint an féir.

He is baptising the child.
He is killing the hen.
He is breaking the window.
He is mowing the hay.

(*c*) When the object of a transitive participle is a personal pronoun we must use an idiom. Reason: The personal pronouns have no genitive case.

Striking me	= *to my striking*	=	do mo bualadh.
Striking thee	= *to thy striking*	=	do do bualadh.
Striking him	= *to his striking*	=	da bualadh.
Striking her	= *to her striking*	=	da bualadh.
Striking us	= *to our striking*	=	dar m-bualadh.
Striking you	= *to your striking*	=	do bhur m-bualadh.
Striking them	= *to their striking*	=	da m-bualadh.

(*d*) When the object of a transitive participle is a *relative pronoun*, it is governed by the participle in the *accusative* case. Reason: The relative *has* a genitive, and would be used but for the fact that the relative

never follows the verb. Hence as the genitive cannot stand before the participle the relative is governed in the accusative case.

An uḃ atá me aġ ite	The egg which I am eating.
An uḃ a ḃí me aġ ite	The egg which I was eating.

☞ *The relative is the only word which can be governed in the accusative case by the present participle.*

The Infinitive Mood.

In English, the infinitive is known by the particle "to," which is universally called the "sign of the infinitive." It is not a preposition as some writers assert, nor is it parsed as such, having no noun or pronoun to govern. The writer considers it a very essential factor of the infinitive, for, without it, the infinitive, in most cases, becomes finite. In English, the infinitive without the sign is like the imperative; but, in Irish, the infinitive without the sign is not often like the imperative, and hence, it can be known when, as often happens, the sign is absent. The Irish infinitive has two signs a and te.

The regular ending of the infinitive is aḋ. This aḋ should never be written eaḋ except in verbs of the type of fionnuim. By tacking aḋ on to the imperative or root and prefixing the sign, we get the infinitive.

Root	dún	Infinitive	a dúnaḋ, to shut.
„	fionn	„	a fionneaḋ, to stretch.
„	buail	„	a ḃualaḋ, to beat.
„	gortuiġ	„	a ġortuġaḋ, to hurt.
„	díriġ	„	a díriuġaḋ, to straighten.

As seen here, the rule is to make the characteristic vowel broad when possible. Hence, the ı is dropped in ɓuaıl and ʒoɲtuıʒ, while in ɔíɲıʒ it becomes ıu. But in monosyllabic roots like ɾínn, the characteristic vowel remains unchanged, so that eaȯ must be added.

Use of the Infinitive.

(*a*) As we have already seen, the infinitive has two signs ᴀ and le; le causes no initial change, but ᴀ aspirates the initial of the verb. le prefixes h to a vowel.

ıɾ cóıɲ ȯıa ᴀ ʒıaɓuʒaȯ	It is right to love God.
ɓuȯ ṁaıṫ lıom an ɓó ᴀ ȯıol	I would like to sell the cow
Ṫaınıc ɾe le ɾannaċt	He came to stay.
Ṫá ɾe le h-ımṫeaċt	He is to go away.

(*b*) When the English *passive* infinitive expresses *future event*, as, "He is to be killed," *i.e.*, "he will be killed," the sign le must be used. Hence, the Irish active infinitive, in such cases, is said to have a passive signification.

He is to be hanged	Ṫá ɾe le cɲoċaȯ.
The seed is to be sown	Ṫá an ɾíol le cuɲ.
It is to be boiled	Ṫá ɾe le bɲuıṫ.
The wine is to be drunk.	Ṫá an ɾíon le h-ól.

(*c*) When the English *active infinitive* expresses *future event* or *purpose* le must be used in Irish; and if the infinitive governs an accusative case, the two signs must be used, ᴀ before the infinitive and le before the accusative.

I am to cry (*f.e.*)	Tá me le caonaḋ.
I am to wait (*f.e.*)	Tá me le fanaċt.
He came to fight (*pur.*)	Ṫainic fe le troid.
He came to sit (*pur.*)	Ṫainic fe le fuiḋe.
I am to marry Mary (*f.e.*)	Tá me le Máire a ṗóraḋ.
He came to sell a horse (*pur.*)	Ṫainic fe le capall a ḋíol.

(*d*) All *transitive* infinitives must be immediately preceded by the sign a or do.

Ṫainic fe le fíol a ċur	He came to sow seed.
Buḋ mían leif fíol a ċur	He wanted to sow seed.
Iarr air cor a ḃogaḋ	Tell him to move a foot.

(*e*) *Intransitive* infinitives must be preceded by le when *purpose* or *future event* is to be conveyed.

He came to sleep	Ṫainic fe le codlaḋ.
He came to stay	Ṫainic fe le fanaċt.
He came to cry	Ṫainic fe le caonaḋ.
He is to sit	Tá fe le fuiḋe.
He is to stand	Tá fe le feafaḋ.
He is to walk	Tá fe le siubal.

(*f*) In all other cases *intransitive* infinitives require no sign, and no aspiration of the initial occurs.

Tell him to walk	Abair leif siubal.
Tell him to sleep	Iarr air codlaḋ.
I cannot stand	Ní ṫig liom feafaḋ.
He made him go away	Ṫug fe air imṫeaċt.
It is better for you to sit	Is feárr duit fuiḋe.
I prefer to stand	Is feárr liom feafaḋ.
I would like you to stay	Buḋ maiṫ liom ṫu fanaċt.

☞ a ḃeiṫ, a ḋul, and a ṫeaċt, are exceptions.

Governing Power of the Infinitive.

(*a*) The Irish transitive infinitive cannot govern a noun in the genitive except when it expresses purpose and even then the accusative is commonly used also. The position of the accusative is always before the infinitive, that of the genitive is after it.

Ṫáinic ré a ḃuinṫ féiṁ
Ṫáinic ré le féiṁ a ḃuinṫ
} He came to mow hay.

(*b*) In all other cases, a transitive infinitive can only govern a noun in the accusative case.

Abair leis slat a ḃuinṫ	Tell him to cut a rod.
Ní ṫig liom cos a ṫogḃail	I cannot lift a foot.
Is coir Dia a ġrádugaḋ	It is right to love God.
Féadaim an píopa a líonaḋ	I may fill the pipe.

(*c*) When the object of a transitive infinitive is a personal pronoun we can only use the accusative, as personal pronouns are defective in the genitive. To make up for this deficiency we are at liberty to use an idiom, as, He wanted to beat me = ḃuḋ ṁian leis mo ḃualaḋ, literally, *he desired my beating*.

Ḃuḋ ċóir duit mé a ṗósaḋ
Ḃuḋ ċóir duit mo ṗósaḋ
} You should marry me.

Ṫáinic se le sinn a ṗósaḋ
Ṫáinic se le n-ar ḃ-ṗósaḋ
} He came to marry us

Tá se le mé a ṗósaḋ
Tá se le mo ṗósaḋ
} He is to marry me.

☞ "Not" before an infinitive is rendered by gan. If the infinitive governs an accusative gan precedes the latter.

I prefer not to stand	Is féarr liom gan seasamh.
Tell him not to sit	Abair leis gan suí.
To be or not to be	A bheith no gan a bheith.
Tell him not to eat the butter	Abair leis gan an t-im a ithe.

N.B.—Chum is sometimes used as a sign of the infinitive when purpose is conveyed: Chum Séamus a bhualadh = to beat James; chum bhreitheamhnas a thabhairt air = to pass judgment on him. In these examples chum is not a preposition, and hence it has nothing to do with the governing of "Seamus" and "bhreitheamhnas."

The Infinitive and Participle.

The infinitive and present participle have the same form, the signs being different. In regular infinitives as we have seen, the ending is adh; but most of the infinitives in the language are irregular; the following should be committed to memory:—

ROOT.	INFINITIVE.	PARTICIPLE.
Guidh, pray	a gabháil	ag gabháil.
Throid, fight	a throid	ag troid.
Ól, drink	a ól	ag ól.
Bruith, boil, cook	a bhruith	ag bruith.
Guil, boil, bubble	a ghuil	ag guil.
Goid, steal	a ghoid	ag goid.
Fiafraigh, inquire	a fiafraí	ag fiafraí.
Éist, hear	a éisteacht	ag éisteacht.
Imir, play (a game)	a imirt	ag imirt.
Tarraing, pull	a tharraint	ag tarraint.
Caill, lose	a chailleadh	ag caillead.
Cuir, put	a chur	ag cur.
Inis, tell	a insint	ag insint.
Coimhid, keep	a choimeád	ag coimeád
Labair, speak	a labhairt	ag labairt.

ROOT.	INFINITIVE.	PARTICIPLE.
Iarr, ask	a iarraidh	ag iarraidh.
Leig, let, allow	a leigean	ag leigean.
Fág, leave	a fágail	ag fágail.
Tóg, lift	a tógail	ag togail.
Ceannuig, buy	a ceannach	ag ceannach.
Díol, sell	a díol	ag díol.
Sníomh, spin	a snímh	ag snímh.
Seinn, sing, play	a seinm	ag seinm.
Nig, wash	a nige	ag nige.
Ceangail, tie	a ceangal	ag ceangal.

Particles.

An?	Simple interrogative aff.
Nach?	Simple interrogative neg.
Ar? (an?+ro)	Perfect interrogative aff.
Nar? (nach?+ro)	Perfect interrogative neg.
Ní and cha	Simple negatives.
Níor (ní+ro)	Perfect tense negatives.
Char (cha+ro)	Perfect tense negatives.
Nach (that...not)	Simple dependent neg.
Nar (nach+ro)	Perfect dependent neg.
Gur (go+ro) *	Affirmative of nar.
Na	Imperative negative.

Examples.

Do you speak English?	An labhann tú Beurla?
Do you not speak Irish?	Nach labhann tú Gaedilge?
Did you strike him?	Ar buail tú é?
Did you not strike him	Nar buail tú é?
I do not smoke (*e.g.* tobacco)	Ní caitim; cha g-caitim.
I did not smoke	Níor chait me; char chait me?
He says he does not smoke	Deir se nach g-caiteann se.
He says he did not smoke	Deir se nar chait se.
He says that he smoked	Deir se gur chait sé.
Do not smoke	Na caith.

* Don't confound this with the conjunction gur=go [See 17.]

THE NEGATIVE ċa.

(*a*) As may be seen from the following examples, which cover the whole scope of the language, ċa eclipses, and never aspirates.

Ċa m-béiṫinn ag caint	I would not be talking.
Ċa g-cuirfinn im air	I would not put butter on it.
Ċa n-deanfainn sin	I would not do that.
Ċa b-fanfainn ann	I would not stay there.
Ċa n-gduiṁfinn pionna	I would not steal a pin.
Ċa mairfeann sé go deo	This won't last for ever.
Ċa b-pógann an cat	The cat does not kiss.
Ċa suiṫfinn ann	I would not sit there.
Ċa d-tiocfaḋ sí	She would not come.
Ċa n-ólann sé	He does not drink.

(*b*) With the verb is only, ċa becomes ċan.

Ċan me (It is not I)	Ċan sinn.
Ċan tú	Ċan sib.
Ċán é, ċan í	Ċan iad.

☞ Ċan fuil is the only apparent case of aspiration. This is nothing else than ċa n-(f)uil.

N.B.—The English present tense is often used for a future, as, He goes home next week. The Irish present tense with ċa is also used in this way, as, ċa d-téiṫim leat go bráṫ = I do not (*i.e.*, I will not) go with you for ever.

Irregular Verbs.

is mé, I am.

PRESENT TENSE.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
is mé, I am	is sinn, we are.
is tú, thou art.	is sib, you are.
is é, is í, he is, she is	is iad, they are.

Negative.

Ní mé (I am not)	Ní rinn.
Ní tú	Ní riú.
Ní h-é, ní h-í	Ní h-iad.

Interrogative.

An me? (Am I?)	An rinn?
An tú?	An riú?
An é? An í?	An iad?

Interrog. Neg.

Nach me? (Am I not?)	Nach rinn?
Nach tú?	Nach riú?
Nach é? Nach í?	Nach iad?

Dependent.

Gur me (That I am)	Gur rinn.
Gur tú	Gur riú.
Gur ab é, gur ab í	Gur ab iad.

Or

Gur me (That I am)	Gur rinn.
Gur tú	Gur riú.
Gurb é, gurb í	Gurb iad.

Dependent Negative.

Nach me (That I am not)	Nach rinn.
Nach tú	Nach riú.
Nach é, nach í	Nach iad.

PERFECT TENSE.

Bud or ba me (I was)	Bud rinn.
Bud tú	Bud riú.
Bud é, bud í	Bud iad.

N.B.—These are the only forms used. In a few idiomatic expressions such as, bud maith liom, a conditional meaning is conveyed, but "bud" by itself is a mere perfect tense.

THE IMPERSONAL VERB is.

PRESENT TENSE.

Is me, It is I	Is sinn, It is we.
Is tú, It is thou	Is sibh, It is you.
Is é, It is he	Is iad, It is they.

N.B.—Mé, tú, &c., are predicates here.

Negative.

Ní mé, (It is not I)	Ní sinn.
Ní tú	Ní sibh.
Ní h-é, ní h-í	Ní h-iad.

Interrogative.

An me? (Is it I?)	An sinn?
An tú?	An sibh?
An é? An í?	An iad?

Interrog. Neg.

Nach mé? (Is it not I?)	Nach sinn?
Nach tú?	Nach sibh?
Nach é, nach í?	Nach iad?

Dependent.

Gur mé (That it is I)	Gur sinn.
Gur tú	Gur sibh?
Gurb é, gurb í	Gurb iad.

Dependent Neg.

Nach mé (That it is not I)	Nach sinn.
Nach tú	Nach sibh.
Nach é, nach í	Nach iad.

Optative: Go m-bud or gur ab = may it be. These are very rare, da being almost always used.

PERFECT TENSE.

Dubh me (It was I)	Dubh sinn.
Dubh tú	Dubh sibh.
Dubh é, dubh í	Dubh iad.

USE OF IS.

(*a*) The secondary forms of the perfect are like those of the present tense. It is only by the context —usually by a relative clause following—that we can distinguish the tense, as, Ní mé a deir é, It is not I that say it. Ni me a dúbhairt é. It was not I that said it. The particles are also the same. We must not, therefore, say, An me? Was it I? Níor me, It was not I; An eun é? Was it a bird? An Fhrancach é? Was he a Frenchman? These are turned correctly as follows :—

An mé a bí ann?	Was it I that was in it?
Ní mé a bí ann	It was not I that was in it.
An eun a bí ann?	Was it a bird that was in it?
An Fhrancach a bí ann?	Was it a Frenchman that was in him?

(*b*) Before é, í, iad, however, the particles an níor, nar, &c., as well as the verb, are often used—principally in replies, as, Níorbh é, It was not (he), Níorbh í, It was not (she); Níorbh iad, It was not (they); Dúbhairt sí narbh í, She said that it was not (she); Arbh í Máire a dúbhairt sin? Was it Mary that said that? &c. With certain idiomatic phrases also these particles are used before adjectives, the initials of which

will be aspirated, but the verb will be suppressed, except before a vowel sound:

An mait leat?	Would you like?
Nior coir duit	You should not.
An b'fearr leat?	Would you pefer?
Nar b' ard an fear é?	Wasn't he a tall man?
Nar mór an fear é?	Wasn't he a big man?
Nior mór an fear é?	He wasn't a big man?

An mór an fear é? is incorrect.

(*c*) Examples of the type of Bud mór an fear é are often converted into relative sentences with the usual particles, ni, an, nac, etc.

He was a big man	Bud mor an fear a bí ann.
She was a good girl	Bud mait an cailín a bí inntí.
Were not they big men?	Nac mór na fir a bí ionnta?
Was he a big man?	An fear mór a bí ann?

It would be wrong to translate this last example by, An mór an fear a bí ann? In examples of this kind the adjective always expresses inherent quality, that is, our attention is drawn to the *size*, rather than to the *species* of the man. But as we cannot be impressed with the size of an object which we have not yet seen, and which we are merely inquiring about, it follows that the adjective does not express inherent quality. Hence, An mór an fear é? and an mór an fear a bí ann? are both incorrect.

(*d*) The perfect tense Bud is rarely used personally in simple sentences except with a definite predicate.

Bud mé an fear	I was the man.
Bud me an Francach	I was the Frenchman.
Bud í Maire an bean	Mary was the woman.

With indefinite predicates, it is usual to convert simple sentences into relative ones as follows :—

He was a man.	Is fear a bí ann.
He was a Frenchman	Is Francach a bí ann.
She was a good girl	Is cailín maith a bí inntí.

Or, with tá.

Bí sé na fear.
Bí se na Francach.
Bí sí na cailín maith.

(*e*) The verb is, and its past tense bud, are, therefore, as a general rule, suppressed in secondary tenses. We have also seen that the conjunction go becomes gur in dependent sentences, and when é, í, or iad follows it is written gurb, or gurbh (past).

He says that he is the man	Deir se gurb é an fear.
He said that he was the man	Dúbairt se gurbh é an fear.
He says that Nora is the girl	Deir se gurb í Nóra an cailín.
He said that Nora was the girl	Dúbairt sé gurbh í Nóra an cailín

(*f*) The noun or pronoun that immediately follows the *impersonal* verb is is always a predicate. Hence me and fear in the following examples are predicates:

Is mé atá ag caint	It is I who am talking.
An fear atá ag caint ?	Is it a man that is talking?

(*g*) The noun or pronoun that immediately follows the *personal* verb is may be a subject or a predicate.

Is mé é (verb subj. pred.)	I am he.
Is tú Nóra (v. s. p.)	You are Nora.
Is mé an fear (v. s. p.)	I am the man.
Is fear mé (v. p. s.)	I am a man.

THE IS CONSTRUCTION.

The subject is placed immediately after all verbs in the language. Is complies with this rule when the subject and predicate are both definite,* but in other cases the predicate comes between the verb and the subject. [See Double Predicate.]

He is the man	Is é an fear	v. s. p.
I am he	Is me é	
I am Cian	Is me Cian	
John is my son	Is é Seagan mo mac	
I am *a man*	Is fear me	v. p. s.
John is *a Frenchman*	Is Francach Seagan	

Double Subject.

(*a*) When the subject and predicate of a sentence are both definite there will be an extra pronoun subject in Irish agreeing in gender, number, and case, with *the* subject which must be a noun either expressed or understood.

Mary is she	Is...í Máire...í	v. s. p.
John is he	Is...é Seagan...é	
Erin is my country	Is...í Eire...mo tír	
The men are they	Is...iad na fir...iad	
These men are they	Is...iad na fir seo...iad	
That is Mary	Is...í sin...Máire	

(*b*) Sometimes *this* and *that*, or their plurals, are equivalent to the adverbs *here* and *there*, and when this is so they are rendered by so and sin.

This is he = Here he is = so é.
That is he = There he is = sin é.
This is John = Here is John = so Seagan.

* A word is definite if it is a proper name, or a personal pronoun; or if it is preceded by a possessive or demonstrative adjective. *This* and *that* are definite words when they point to a noun understood.

(*c*) When an *indefinite* predicate is the name of something pointed at, *this* and *that* are not equivalent to the adverbs *here* and *there*, but refer to some abstract or unknown thing understood, and in such cases we must use the verb thus :—

This is a stone	Is cloċ ro.
This is not bread	Ní arán ro.
That is not a horse	Ní capall rin.
It is a ghost	Is taibre é.
That is not Irish	Ní Gaedilge rin.

(*d*) When *this*, *that*, *these*, or *those*, are equivalent to *this one*, *that one*, *these ones*, *those ones*, a double subject must be used, even with indefinite predicates.

This is a cow	Is bó í ro.
That is a bull	Is tarb é rin.
These are herrings	Is rGadain iad ro.
That is a good cow	Is bó maiṫ í rin.

Double Predicate.

(*a*) When the subject is a personal pronoun, and a possessive pronoun in the predicate, there will be a double predicate, and the construction will be—*verb*, *predicate*, *subject*.

He is my father	Is.....é m' aṫair.....é.	v. p. s.
She is my love	Is.....í mo Ghrádh.....í.	
They are my horses	Is.....iad mo chapaill.....iad.	
It is my pleasure	Is.....é mo thoil.. ...é.	

(*b*) When a *definite noun* comes immediately after the *impersonal* verb is, it will be a double predicate.

Is í Nora atá ann ro.	It is Nora that is here.
Ní h-iad na fir atá ann.	It is not the men that are in it.
An é Séamus a rinne é?	Was it James that did it.

☞ Note the difference in :—

They are my sheep	Is iad mo chaoirigh iad.
The sheep are mine	Is liom na caoirigh.
These are my sheep	Is iad so mo chaoirigh.
These sheep are mine	Is liom na caoirigh so.
Speak if you wish	Labair ma 's é do toil é.
Speak (if you) please !	Labair le do toil.

N.B.—Acht ab é Seaghan Béirdinn marbh = Only for John I would have been dead. Acht ab é go raibh tú ann bí me caillte = Had you not been there I was done for. Acht ab é chuga go dé dheánfainn ! Only for you what would I do !

THE VERB TÁ.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

PRESENT TENSE.

1. Tá me, I am	Tá sinn,* we are.
2. Tá tú, thou art	Tá sibh, you are.
3. Tá se, tá sí, he is, &c.	Tá siad, they are.

Negative.

Ní fuil me (I am not)	Ní fuil sinn, ní fuilmid.
Ní fuil tú	Ní fuil sibh.
Ní fuil se	Ní fuil siad.

☞ Ní fuil is also written Níl.

Interrogative.

An-fuil me ? (Am I ?)	An-fuil sinn ? an-fuilmid ?
An-fuil tú ?	An-fuil sibh ?
An-fuil se ?	An-fuil siad ?

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* Támuid is also used.

Interrog. Negative.

Nach bhfuil me? (Am I not?)	Nach bhfuil finn?
Nach bhfuil tú?	Nach bhfuil sibh?
Nach bhfuil se?	Nach bhfuil siad?

The Habitual Present.

Tá is the only verb in the language that has a special form to express habitual action or state. As well as the forms given below, we often hear bí tú, bí sé, bí sí, etc., but these are not used after particles.

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
Bídhim (I am wont to be)	Bídheann sinn.*
Bídheann tú	Bídheann sibh.
Bídheann se	Bídheann siad.

Negative.

Ní bhídhim (I am not wont to be)	Ní bhídheann sinn.
Ní bhídheann tú	Ní bhídheann sibh.
Ní bhídheann se	Ní bhídheann siad.

IMPERFECT TENSE.

Bhídhinn (I used to be)	Bhídheadh sinn.
Bhídhtheá	Bhídheadh sibh.
Bhídheadh se.	Bhídheadh siad.

Negative: Ní bhídhinn, ní bhídhtheá, etc.

Interrogative: M-bhídhinn? m-bhídhtheá, etc.?

Interrog. Neg.: Nach m-bhídhinn? etc.

PERFECT TENSE.

Bhí me (I was)	Bhí sinn.
Bhí tú	Bhí sibh.
Bhí sé	Bhí siad.

* Also bhídhmid.

Negative.

Ní raib me (I was not)	Ní raib sinn.
Ní raib tú	Ní raib sib.
Ní raib sé	Ní raib siad.

Raib is pronounced rŏv.

Interrogative.

Raib me? (Was I?)	Raib sinn?
Raib tú	Raib sib?
Raib sé?	Raib siad?

Also, An raib me?

FUTURE TENSE.

Béid me (I shall be)	Béid sinn.*
Béid tú	Béid sib.
Béid sé	Béid siad.

Negative: Ní béid mé, etc.
Interrogative: m-béid mé, etc.
Interrog. Neg.: Nach m-béid me? etc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Béidinn (I would be)	Béidead sinn.
Béidtea	Béidead sib.
Béidead sé	Béidead siad.

Negative: Ní béidinn, etc.
Interrogative: m-béidinn? etc.
Interrog. Neg.: Nach m-béidinn? etc.

OPTATIVE MOOD.

Go raib me! (may I be!)	Go raib sinn! †
Go raib tú!	Go raib sib!
Go raib se!	Go raib siad!

* Also béidmid. † Also go raibmid!

Negative.

Nár raib me !	Nár raib sinn !
Nár raib tú !	Nár raib sib !
Nár raib se !	Nár raib siad !

IMPERATIVE MOOD.

	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
1.	———	Bíodhmuid.
2.	Bí (be)	Bígid.*
3.	Bídeadh se	Bídeadh siad.

INFINITIVE, ETC.

A beith, to be.

Air m-beith, having been.

N.B.—*The present participle is never used.*

TAthAR, bIthEAR, bÉIdhthEAR.

These forms are often used when the subject is general, as, Tathar ag buint an féir, they are mowing the hay, the hay is being mowed. Bithear ag buint na b-prátaí, they were digging the potatoes, the potatoes were being dug. Tathar dá m-buint, they are digging them, they are being dug. Ní beidhthear dá m-buint go deo, they (people or we) will not be digging them for ever.

The ending (thar) of these impersonal forms has the same force as the French *on*.

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* Classic form bídid, now written and pronounced bígid. Hence also pógaidid, bualtidid.

Inherent Quality and Species.

NOUNS.—When we say that a cow is not a goat we cannot mistake the meaning, viz.: that it is a question of the *species* of animal. When we say that a cow is not a block of wood, it is also a question of species. But when we say that *the* cow is not a goat, two ideas are presented to our mind: (1) that the cow is not of the goat species; (2) that the cow in question may have been at one time under the form of a goat, or of a hare, but that she is *now* in her natural shape again; and hence she is not *in her* capacity or *quality of goat*, or as it would lie in Irish, *The cow is not in her goat.* Again, when we say that a lamb is a sheep, we cannot mistake the meaning, viz.: that a lamb is not a cat or a dog, but an animal of the sheep species. But "*The* lamb is a sheep," suggests (1) the idea of species, (2) that the lamb *has grown*, and is now *in its quality of sheep*, and hence, this is a question of internal or inherent quality. "A lamb is a young sheep," suggests species only, but "*The* lamb is a young sheep," suggests both species and inherent quality. In composition the context must be our guide. If the sentence has no connection, we may translate as we choose. From this we see:—

(1) That the question of species or quality requires that the *predicate* be *indefinite.*

(2) That when the subject is *indefinite*, the idea of species is conveyed.

(3) That when the subject is *definite*, species or quality may be conveyed.

ADJECTIVES.—When we say corn is green, sugar is sweet, we may mean that corn is green *and not black*, sugar is sweet *and not bitter*; and, here the colour or quality expressed by the adjective is always associated with other colours or qualities. The adjective in such cases expresses species. But when the colour or quality is not associated with other qualities, it usually intensifies our feelings in some way. Thus, when we say, sugar is sweet, we may mean, "How sweet sugar is!" and when we say, "Isn't sugar sweet?" we may mean, "What a sweet thing sugar is!" or "Sugar is very sweet—Don't you think so?" In such cases the adjective expresses inherent quality. In English, this idea of inherent quality or state is expressed by the context, in a variety of ways; sometimes by emphasising the verb, as "This is a sweet apple—and indeed it *is* sweet"; sometimes by a negative sentence, interrogative in form, but really an exclamation, as, "Isn't the water black?" or more correctly, "Isn't the water black!" But perhaps the favourite way of expressing inherent quality in English, is by a poetical inversion, that is, by misplacing the adjective, and putting it in a prominent position. The following are examples of this kind, and all the adjectives express inherent quality:—

"O! *green* was the corn as I rode on my way,
And *bright* were the dews on the blossoms of May!"
"*Pale* are the stars in the heavens to-night,
And *silent* and *still* is the lake!"
"*Sad* is the sound and *sorrowful!*"
"*Fair* are the fields in the Summer,
And *sweet* is the scent of the flowers!"

WHEN TO USE IS AND WHEN TA.

(*a*) A sentence having a definite predicate must be rendered by ir.

I am the man	ir me an fear.
You are the king	ir tú an rí.
I am he	ir me é.
We are they	ir sinn iad.
Are you Cormack	An tú Cormac?
She is my daughter	ir í mo níghean í.
This is my brother	ir e so mo dhéarbhráthair.
That is my sister	ir í sin mo dheirbhshiúr.

(*b*) To translate a sentence having an indefinite noun predicate, ir must be used for species, and ta for inherent quality.

The trout is a fish	ir iasg an bhreac.	sp.
John is a priest	ir sagart Seaghan.	sp.
He is a man	ir fear é.	sp.
The trout is a fish	Tá an bhreac na iasg.	i. q.
John is a priest	Tá Seaghan na shagart.	i. q.
He is a man	Tá sé na fhear.	i. q.

When the indefinite noun is qualified by an adjective, a favourite way to express inherent quality is to use ir, immediately followed by the adjective, and then the noun with the article, as, He is *a* good man = ir maith an fear é; they are good men = ir maith na sir iad. Notice that the adjective is invariable.

He is a good man =

(1) ir fear maith é (Species).
(2) ir maith an fear é (i. q.)
(3) Tá se na fhear mhaith (i. q.)

When the indefinite predicate expresses species ıṙ and ṫa often combine to form an idiom by which simple sentences are converted into relative ones. Thus, She is a woman = ıṙ ḃean aṫa ınntí = literally, It is a woman that is in her.

A trout is a fish	ıṙ ıaṙg aṫá a m-bṗeac.
They are men	ıṙ ṗıṗ aṫá ıonnta.
John is a man	ıṙ ṗeaṗ aṫá ann Ṡeaġan.
You are a good girl	ıṙ caılín maıṫ aṫá ıonnaṫ.
Mary is a good girl	ıṙ caılın maıṫ aṫá ann Ṁáıṗe.

N.B.—We see, therefore, that the same sentence may be rendered three ways when the indefinite predicate has no adjective, and four ways when it has an adjective.

JOHN IS A PRIEST:

(1) ıṙ ṙaġaṗṫ Seaġan (Species).
(2) ıṙ ṙaġaṗṫ aṫá ann Ṡeaġan (Species.)
(3) Ṫa Seaġan na ṙaġaṗṫ (i. q.)

JOHN IS A GOOD PRIEST:

(1) ıṙ ṙaġaṗṫ maıṫ Seaġan (Species.)
(2) ıṙ ṙaġaṗṫ maıṫ aṫá ann Ṡeaġan (Species.)
(3) ıṙ maıṫ an ṙaġaṗṫ Seaġan (i. q.)
(4) Ṫá Seaġan na ṙaġaṗṫ Ṁaıṫ (i. q.)

☞ In connection with time and space ṫa is used:

He is five miles away	Ṫá ṗe cúıġ Ṁıle aıṗ ṙıuḃal.
The house is twenty yards long	Ṫá an ṫeaċ ṙıċe ṙlaṫ aıṗ ṙaṫ.
It is twenty feet high	Ṫá ṗe ṙıċe ṫṗoıġ aıṗ aıṗṫe.
It is midnight	Ṫá ṗe an meaḋon-oıḋċe.
I was a year in Derry	Ḃí me ḃlıaḋain a n-Ḋoıṗe.

(*c*) When the predicate is an adjective in the comparative degree we may use either ıṙ or tá, as, Milk is better than wine=(1) Tá bainne níor feárr na fíon (2) Ir feárr bainne na fíon. When the predicate is an adjective in the positive degree tá must be used for species, and ıṙ for inherent quality, as,

Sugar is sweet (sp.)	Tá fiuchta milis.
Sugar is sweet (i. q.)	Ir milis fiuchta.
The corn was green (sp.)	Bí an coirce glas.
Green was the corn ! (i. q.)	Buó glas an coirce.
The night is dark (sp.)	Tá an oíche doirche.
Isn't the night dark ? (i. q.)	Nach doirche an oíche

(*d*) When any part of the verb "to be" is immediately followed by a preposition, an adverb, or a present participle tá must be used.

He is at the door	Tá se ag an doras.
He is not there now	Ní fuil se ann sin anois.
He is walking *	Tá se ag siubal.

(*e*) When "to be" is impersonal, ıṙ is always used :

It is sick that I am	Ir tinn atá me.
It is I who am sick	Ir mise atá tinn.
It is here that I am	Ir ann so atá me.
It is at the well that I am	Ir ag an tobar atá me.
It is I that have the cow	Ir agamsa atá an bó.
It is I that have the new hat	Ir agamsa atá an hata úr.
It is walking that I am	Ir ag siubal atá me.

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* In a few cases an idiom takes place, as, I am sleeping=Tá me mo chodlad, I am living or residing=Tá me mo chomnuide. Tá me mo chomnuide, means also, I am idle.

Beirim, I GIVE.

ACTIVE VOICE.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Beirim (I give)	Beir rinn.
Beir tú	Beir rib.
Beir re	Beir riad.

Negative.

Ní tabhraim (I do not give)	Ní tabhrann rinn.
Ní tabhrann tú	Ní tabhrann rib.
Ní tabhrann ré	Ní tabhrann riad.

Pronounce Ní hórŭm, etc.

IMPERFECT INDIC.

Beirinn (I used to give)	Beiread rinn.
Beirtea	Beiread rib.
Beiread re	Beiread riad.

Negative.

Ní tabhrainn (I used not to give)	Ní tabhrad rinn.
Ní tabhrta	Ní tabhrad rib.
Ní tabhrad re	Ní tabhrad riad.

Pronounce Ní hórainn, ní hórhă, etc.

PERFECT INDIC.

Tug me (I gave)	Tug rinn or tugmuid.
Tug tú	Tug rib.
Tug re	Tug riad.

Negative, etc.

Níor tug me or Ní tug me, etc.

Ar tug me? or O-tug me? etc.

Nar tug me? or Nach o-tug me? etc.

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

Beirfiḋ me* (I shall give)	Beirfiḋ finn.
Beirfiḋ tú	Beirfiḋ fiḃ.
Beirfiḋ fé	Beirfiḋ fiaḋ.

Also written Béarfaiḋ me.

Negative.

Ní ṫabarfaiḋ me* (I will not give)	Ní ṫabarfaiḋ finn.
Ní ṫabarfaiḋ tú	Ní ṫabarfaiḋ fiḃ.
Ní ṫabarfaiḋ fe	Ní ṫabarfaiḋ fiaḋ.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Beirfinn (I would give)	Beirfeaḋ finn.
Beirfea	Beirfeaḋ fiḃ.
Beirfeaḋ fe.	Beirfeaḋ fiaḋ.

Also Béarfainn.

Negative.

Ní ṫabarfainn (I would not give)	Ní ṫabarfaḋ finn.
Ní ṫabarfa	Ní ṫabarfaḋ fiḃ.
Ní ṫabarfaḋ fe	Ní ṫabarfaḋ fiaḋ.

Imperative	Ṫabair,† *pl.* Ṫabairiġiḋ or ṫabraiġiḋ.
Infinitive	A ṫabairt (*Pr.* ă ṫóirt, or a hóirt).
Participle	Ag ṫabairt (*Pr.* ag ṫóirt or a ṫóirt).

PASSIVE VOICE.

Present Indic.	Beirtear mé; ní ṫabártar mé.
Imperfect	Beirti mé; ní ṫabartaí mé.
Perfect	Tugaḋ mé; níor tugaḋ mé.
Future	Béarfar mé; ní ṫabarfar mé.
Conditional	Beirfiḋe mé; ní ṫabarfaiḋe mé.
Infinitive	A beiṫ ṫabarṫa, or a beiṫ tugṫa.
Participle	Ṫabarṫa or tugṫa.

* Pronounce: beirhim ă, beirhĭttú, beirhí fé (short, beirhir fă), etc. *Negative:* ní hórhim ă, ní hórhĭttú, ni horhí fé, etc.

† Pronounce, tóir.

☞ As may be seen, there is a special root in most of the tenses when the verb is negative. This root must be used, also, in interrogative and dependent sentences. In this verb, the special root is tabair, but tug is also used.

IDIOMATIC USE OF beirim.

Except in replies, this verb is connected with a preposition. The following are the meanings :—

(1) beirim + do + noun or pronoun = I give... .
(2) beirim + ar + noun or pronoun = I pay... .
(3) beirim + ar + noun + infin. = I cause or compel.
(4) beirim + iom, leat, leir, etc. = I take... .
(5) beirim + tugam, tugat, etc. = I bring... .

Examples.

Thug se aran do Mháire	He gave bread to Mary.
Thug se pingin air aran	He paid a penny for bread.
Thug se air Una suidhe	He made Una sit.
Thug se an bó leis	He took the cow with him.
Thug se an sgian chuici	He brought her the knife.
Tabair tugam mo bhróga	Bring me my shoes.

beirim, I BEAR.

ACTIVE VOICE.

Present Indic.	beirim ; ní beirim ; m-beirim ?
Imperfect	beirinn ; ní beirinn ; m-beirinn ?
Perfect	rug mé ; níor rug mé ; ar rug mé ?
Future	beirfidh me, ní beirfidh mé ; &c.
Conditional	beirfinn ; ní beirfinn ; m-beirfinn ?
Imperative	beir *pl.* beirigidh.
Infinitive	a bheith.
Participle	ag bheith.

PASSIVE VOICE.

Present Indic.	Beirtear mé ; ní beirtear mé.
Imperfect	Beirtí mé ; ní beirtí mé.
Perfect	Rugadh mé; níor rugadh mé; ar rugadh mé?
Future	Béarfar mé ; ní béarfar mé.
Conditional	Beirfí mé ; ní beirfí mé.
Infinitive	A beit beirte.
Participle	Beirte.

USE OF beirim.

This verb is rarely used with the meaning "to bring," or "to carry," which, as we have already seen, is expressed by beirim, I give. The principal meanings attached to this verb are as follows:—

(1) To produce or bring forth :

Rug sí mac	She brought forth a son.
Rug an bó	The cow calved.
Rug an cearc	The hen laid.

(2) With the preposition ar: to catch, to arrest, to overtake.

Rug se air an t-slait	He caught the rod.
Rug se air Séamus	He seized James.
Rugadh air Seagan	John was arrested.
Rug se air Peadar	He overtook Peter.

N.B.—Hence, rug se orm = (1) He caught me, (2) he seized me, (3) he arrested me, (4) he overtook me. The participle beirte is not used in the sense of catching, arresting, or overtaking, gaibte (*pr.* guite), from gabaim, being used in its stead : Ta sé gaibte = He is caught, he is "trapped," he is arrested, &c.

ġnıȯım OR nīȯım, I DO, I MAKE.

ACTIVE VOICE.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

ġnıȯım (I do, I make)	ġnıȯ rınn.
ġnıȯ tú	ġnıȯ rıb.
ġnıȯ re	ġnıȯ rıaȯ.

Pr. ním, nī tú, etc.

Negative.

Nī ȯeánaım (I do not do)	Nī ȯeánann rınn.
Nī ȯeánann tú	Nī ȯeánann rıb.
Nī ȯeánann re	Nī ȯeánann rıaȯ.

Also ċa n-ȯeánaım, etc.

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE.

ġnıȯınn (I used to do)	ġnıȯeaȯ rınn.
ġnıȯċea	ġnıȯeaȯ rıb.
ġnıȯeaȯ re	ġnıȯeaȯ rıaȯ.

Negative.

Nī ȯeánaınn (I used not to do)	Nī ȯeánaȯ rınn.
Nī ȯeánċa	Nī ȯeánaȯ rıb.
Nī ȯeánaȯ re	Nī ȯeánaȯ rıaȯ.

Also ċa n-ȯeánaınn, etc.

PERFECT INDICATIVE.

Rınne mé (I did, I made)	Rınne rınn.
Rınne tú	Rınne rıb.
Rınne re	Rınne rıaȯ.

Negative.

Nī ȯeárn me (I did not do)	Nī ȯeárn rınn.
Nī ȯeárn tú	Nī ȯeárn rıb.
Nī ȯeárn re	Nī ȯeárn rıaȯ.

Also ċa ȯeárn me, etc.

Interrogative.

Deárn me? (Did I do?)	Deárn rinn?
Deárn tú?	Deárn rib?
Deárn re?	Deárn riad?

N.B.—No Eclipsis.

Interrogative Negative, etc.

Nach deárn me?	Did I not do?
Go deárn me	That I did, that I made.
Nach deárn me	That I did not do.

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

Déanfaid me (I shall do)	Déanfaid rinn.
Déanfaid tú	Déanfaid rib.
Déanfaid re	Déanfaid riad.

Negative.

Ní déanfaid me (I will not do)	Ní déanfaid rinn.
Ní déanfaid tú	Ní déanfaid rib.
Ní déanfaid re	Ní déanfaid riad.

Also, Ca n-déanfaid me, etc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Déanfainn (I would do)	Déanfad rinn.
Déanfa	Déanfad rib.
Déanfad re	Déanfad riad.

Imperative: Dean, *pl.* Deánaigid.
Infinitive: A déanad. *Participle:* Ag deánad.

☞ Form passive voice in the usual way from the active roots.

Deirim, I SAY.

ACTIVE VOICE.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Deirim (I say)	Deir sinn.
Deir tú	Deir sib.
Deir se	Deir siad.

PERFECT INDICATIVE.

Dúbairt me (I said)	Dúbairt sinn.
Dúbairt tú	Dúbairt sib.
Dúbairt se	Dúbairt siad.

Pronounce, dúirt me, etc.

Níor dúbairt me	I did not say.
Ar dúbairt me?	Did I say?
Nar dúbairt me?	Did I not say?
Abair, abraigid	Say thou, say you.
A rád; ag rád	To say; saying.

The other parts are quite regular.

PASSIVE VOICE.

Present Indic.	Deirtear é	*It* is said.
Imperfect	Deirtí é	*It* was said.
Perfect	Adrad é	*It* was said.
Future	Déarfar é	*It* will be said.
Conditional	Déarfaide é	*It* would be said.
Infin. and Part.	A béit ráidte; ráidte.	
Impersonal	Deirtear	It is said (*Fr., On dit*).
	Deirtí	It was said.
	Adrad	It was said.
	Déarfar	It will be said.
	Déarfaide	It would be said.

N.B.—Deirim + le = I tell, as Deirim leat, I tell you; Dúbairt me le Máire, I told Mary. The d of dúbairt is silent.

ʒeibim (I GET, I FIND).

ACTIVE VOICE.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

ʒeibim* (I get)	ʒeib rinn.
ʒeib tú	ʒeib rib.
ʒeib re	ʒeib riad.

Negative.

ní fáʒaim (I do not get)	ní fáʒann rinn.
ní fáʒann tú	ní fáʒann rib.
ní fáʒann re	ní fáʒann riad.

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE.

ʒeibinn (I used to get)	ʒeibeað rinn.
ʒeibtea	ʒeibeað rib.
ʒeibeað re	ʒeibeað riad.

Pr. yevinn, yevha, etc.

Negative.

ní fáʒainn (I used not to get)	ní faʒað rinn.
ní fáʒta	ní faʒað rib.
ní faʒað re	ní faʒað riad.

Pr. ní áinn, ní ahha, etc.

PERFECT INDICATIVE.

fuair me (I got)	fuair rinn.
fuair tú	fuair rib.
fuair re	fuair riad.

Negative.

ní fuairt† me (I did not get)	ní fuair rinn.
ní fuair tu	ní fuair rib.
ní fuair re	ní fuair riad.

---

* Pronounce *yev'-im*, *yev* tú, *yev* ré, etc. † Pronounce ní wuair.

Interrogative.

Ḃ-fuaiṁ mé? (Did I get?)	Ḃ-fuaiṁ finn?
Ḃ-fuaiṁ tú	Ḃ-fuaiṁ fiḃ?
Ḃ-fuaiṁ fe?	Ḃ-fuaiṁ fiad?

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

Ġeóḃaiḋ me (I shall get)	Ġeóḃaiḋ finn.
Ġeóḃaiḋ tú	Ġeóḃaiḋ fiḃ.
Ġeóḃaiḋ fe	Ġeóḃaiḋ fiad.

Pr. yo'-ee mă, etc.

Negative.

Ní fuiġ* me (I shall not get)	Ní fuiġ finn.
Ní fuiġ tú	Ní fuiġ fiḃ.
Ní fuiġ fe	Ní fuiġ fiad.

Interrogative.

Ḃ-fuiġ me? (Shall I get?)	Ḃ-fuiġ finn?
Ḃ-fuiġ tú?	Ḃ-fuiġ fiḃ?
Ḃ-fuiġ fe?	Ḃ-fuiġ fiad?

Pr. wee mĕ? etc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Ġeóḃainn (I would get)	Ġeóḃaḋ finn.
Ġeóḃṫa	Ġeóḃaḋ fiḃ.
Ġeóḃaḋ fe	Ġeóḃaḋ fiad.

Pr. yóinn, yŏhă, yóiṫ fĕ, etc.

Negative.

Ní fuiġinn (I would not get)	Ní fuiġeaḋ finn.
Ní fuiġṫeá	Ní fuiġeaḋ fiḃ.
Ní fuiġeaḋ fe	Ní fuiġeaḋ fiad.

Pr. ní wuínn, ní wuíha, ní wuíṫ fĕ, etc.

Also, ní faġainn, etc.

---

* *Pronounce:* ní wuiġ, or ní *wee.*

Imperative fág, faghaigidh (*Pr.* fá, fá-ig-í).
Infinitive a faghail (*Pr.* a áil).
Participle agh faghail (*Pr.* agh fáil or a fáil).

PASSIVE VOICE.

Present Indic. Gheibtear mé; ni faghtar mé; ḃ-faghtar mé?
Imperfect Gheibtí mé; ní gheibtí mé; ḃ-faghtaí mé?
Perfect Fuarthar mé; ní fuarthar mé; ḃ-fuarthar me?
Future Gheobhthar mé; ní fuighthear mé.
Conditional Gheobhthaidhe mé; ní fuighthidhé mé.

N.B.—This verb is defective in the infinitive and participle passive, but we arrive at their equivalents as follows:—

Tá me le faghail	I am to be got.
Ḃidhinn le faghail	I used to be got.
Ḃí me le faghail	I was to be got.
Ḃéidh me le faghail	I shall be got.
Ḃéidhinn le faghail	I would be got.
A ḃeith le faghail	To be got.
Le faghail	Got.

Téidhim, I GO.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Téidhim (I go)	Téidheann sinn.
Téidheann tu	Téidheann sibh.
Téidheann se	Téidheann siad.

Sometimes téid is used instead of téidheann.

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE.

Théidhinn (I used to go)	Théidheadh sinn.
Théidhtea	Théidheadh sibh.
Théidheadh se	Théidheadh siad.

Pr. héinn, héha, héit sĕ (long hé-ú sé, etc.).

PERFECT INDICATIVE.

Ċuaiḋ me (I went)	Ċuaiḋ ṁinn.
Ċuaiḋ tú	Ċuaiḋ ṁiḃ.
Ċuaiḋ ṗe	Ċuaiḋ ṁiaḋ.

Negative.

Ní ḋeaċaiḋ me (I did not go)	Ní ḋeaċaiḋ ṁinn.
Ní ḋeaċaiḋ tú	Ní ḋeaċaiḋ ṁiḃ.
Ní ḋeaċaiḋ ṗe	Ní ḋeaċaiḋ ṁiaḋ.

Also, ċa ḋeaċaiḋ me, etc.

Interrogative.

Ḋeaċaiḋ me? (Did I go?)	Ḋeaċaiḋ ṁinn?
Ḋeaċaiḋ tú?	Ḋeaċaiḋ ṁiḃ?
Ḋeaċaiḋ ṗe?	Ḋeaċaiḋ ṁiaḋ?

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

Raċaiḋ me (I shall go)	Raċaiḋ ṁinn.
Raċaiḋ tú	Raċaiḋ ṁiḃ.
Raċaiḋ ṗe	Raċaiḋ ṁiaḋ.

Pr. ṁaṁm mĕ, ṁaṁă tú, ṁaṁă ṗĕ (long, ṁaṁí* ṗé).

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Raċainn (I would go)	Raċaḋ ṁinn.
Raċa	Raċaḋ ṁiḃ.
Raċaḋ ṗe	Raċaḋ ṁiaḋ.

Pr. ṁaṁinn, ṁaṁa, ṁaṁiṫ ṗĕ (long, ṁaṁú ṗé).

Imperative Ṫeiḋ, ṫeiḋiġiḋ; also ġaḃ (*Pr.* ġo).
Infinitive A ḋul; a ġaḃail (*Pr.* a ġol).
Participle Aġ ḋul; aġ ġaḃail (*Pr.* a ġol).

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* Except when followed by the pronouns, this long sound is usual: ṁacaiḋ máiṁe, pr. *rah'-ee* máiṁe.

N.B.—As may be seen ᵭeaċaiḋ never takes ꝛo, and hence, the particles used are ní (not níoꝛ), ᵹo (not ᵹuꝛ), and naċ (not naꝛ]. The interrogative particle an is not used, and the word never has its initial eclipsed, although we find it sometimes so affected in the written language.

ᵭiᵹim, I COME.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

ᵭiᵹim (I come)	ᵭiᵹ ꝛinn.
ᵭiᵹ ᵭú	ᵭiᵹ ꝛiḃ.
ᵭiᵹ ꝛe	ᵭiᵹ ꝛiaḋ.

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE.

ᵭiᵹinn (I used to come)	ᵭiᵹeaḋ ꝛinn.
ᵭiᵹᵭea	ᵭiᵹeaḋ ꝛiḃ.
ᵭiᵹeaḋ ꝛe	ᵭiᵹeaḋ ꝛiaḋ.

PERFECT INDICATIVE.

ᵭainic me (I came)	ᵭainic ꝛinn.
ᵭainic ᵭú	ᵭainic ꝛiḃ.
ᵭainic ꝛe	ᵭainic ꝛiaḋ.

Pr. henic me, henic ᵭú, etc.

Negative.

níoꝛ ᵭainic me (I did not come)	níoꝛ ᵭainic ꝛinn.
níoꝛ ᵭainic ᵭu	níoꝛ ᵭainic ꝛiḃ.
níoꝛ ᵭainic ꝛe	níoꝛ ᵭainic ꝛiaḋ.

Also, ní ᵭainic me, etc.

Interrogative.

an ᵭainic me? (Did I come)?	an ᵭainic ꝛinn?
an ᵭainic ᵭú?	an ᵭainic ꝛiḃ?
an ᵭainic ꝛe?	an ᵭainic ꝛiaḋ?

Also, ᵭ-ainic me? etc.

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

Tiocfaidh me (I shall come).	Tiocfaidh sinn.
Tiocfaidh tú	Tiocfaidh sibh.
Tiocfaidh sé	Tiocfaidh siad.

Pr. Tiochim mĕ, tiochă tú, etc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Thiocfainn (I would come)	Thiocfadh sinn.
Thiocfa	Thiocfadh sibh.
Tiocfadh sé	Thiocfadh siad.

Pr. Thuchinn, thucha, etc.

Imperative Tar, tarraigidh, ; or tig, tigidh.
Infinitive A theacht.
Participle Ag teacht.

☞ Tar in second persons only.

Tíodh, I SEE.

ACTIVE VOICE.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Tíodh (I see)	Tíodh sinn.
Tíodh tú	Tíodh sibh.
Tíodh sé	Tíodh siad.

Negative.

Ní feicim (I do not see)	Ní feiceann sinn.
Ní feiceann tú	Ní feiceann sibh.
Ní feiceann sé	Ní feicann siad.

IMPERFECT INDICATIVE.

Tíodhinn (I used to see).	Tíodhadh sinn.
Tíodhtea	Tíodhadh sibh.
Tíodhadh sé	Tíodhadh siad.

Negative.

Ní feicinn (I used not to see)	Ní feicead rinn.
Ní feicthea	Ní feicead rib.
Ní feicead re	Ní feicead riad.

PERFECT INDICATIVE.

Tánaic me (I saw)	Tánaic rinn.
Tánaic tú	Tánaic rib.
Tánaic re	Tánaic riad.

Pr. Ṅanic me, ṅanic tú, etc.

Negative.

Ní facaid me (I did not see).	Ní facaid rinn.
Ní facaid tú	Ní facaid rib.
Ní facaid re	Ní facaid riad.

Pr. Ní acim mĕ, ní acă tú, ní acă rĕ (long, ní ací ré), etc.

FUTURE INDICATIVE.

Tiḋfiḋ me (I shall see)	Tiḋfiḋ rinn.
Tiḋfiḋ tú	Tiḋfiḋ rib.
Tiḋfiḋ re	Tiḋfiḋ riad.

Pr. Tífim mĕ, tífă tu, tífir rĕ (long, tífí ré), etc.

Negative.

Ní feicfiḋ me (I shall not see)	Ní feicfiḋ rinn.
Ní feicfiḋ tú	Ní feicfiḋ rib.
Ní feicfiḋ re	Ní feicfiḋ riad.

Pr. Ní echim mĕ, ní echă tú, etc.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Tíḋfinn (I would see)	Tiḋfead rinn.
Tíḋfea	Tiḋfead rib.
Tiḋfead re	Tiḋfead riad.

Pr. Tífinn, tífa, tífit rĕ (long, tífú ré).

Negative.

Ní feicfinn (I would not see)	Ní feicfead finn.
Ní feicfea	Ní feicfeadh fib.
Ní feicfeadh fe	Ní feicfeadh fiadh.

Pr. Ní echinn, ní echă, ní echit fĕ (long, ní echú fé), etc.

Imperative Amharc, amharcaidhidh (*Pr.* Órc, órcidhi).
Infinitive A feiceal or a feicfint.
Participle Ag feiceal, ag feicfint.

PASSIVE VOICE.

Present Indic. Tidhtear mé ; ní feictear mé.
Imperfect Tidhti mé ; ní feicti mé.
Perfect Tanaicear mé ; ni facar mé.
Future Tidhfear mé ; ní feicfear mé.
Conditional Tidhfidhe mé ; ní feicfidhe mé.
Infinitive A beith le feiceal } See Geibim (Pass. Infin)
Participle le feiceal }

☞ Tidhtear dam = It appears to me, methinks ; tanaicear dam = methought.

N.B.—(1) The present tense is tidhim, but we find cidhim in books.

(2) The perfect tense is tanaic me, but in books we find it written connairc me ; and in imitation of this classic spelling, modern grammarians are suggesting connaic me, which is evidently trying to sit on two stools.

(3) Note that f is sounded fully in tidhfidh and tidhfinn, and that the initial of the latter is not aspirated.

cluinim, I HEAR.

PRESENT INDICATIVE.

Cluinim (I hear)	Cluineann sinn.
Cluineann tú	Cluineann sibh.
Cluineann se	Cluineann siad.

PERFECT TENSE.

Chualaidh me (I heard)	Chualaidh sinn.
Chualaidh tú	Chualaidh sibh.
Chualaidh se	Chualaidh siad.

Pr. Chualim mĕ, chuală tú, chuală sĕ or chualaí sé, etc.

Negative, etc.

Níor chualaidh me	I did not hear.
Ar chualaidh me?	Did I hear?
S-cualaidh me?	
A'S-cualaidh me?	
A chluinstin	To hear.
Ag cluinstin	Hearing.

The other parts are quite regular.

ithim, I EAT.

Future Indic.	iosfaidh me,* I shall eat.
Conditional	D'iosfainn, I would eat.
Perfect	D 'ith me, I ate.
Imperative	ith, ithigidh, Eat.
Infinitive	A ithe, To eat.
Participle	Ag ithe, Eating.

The other parts are regular.

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* *Pr.* iosfhim mĕ.

USE OF An.

(*a*) The interrogative particle An performs the double function of interrogating and eclipsing. It cannot eclipse without interrogating at the same time; but it can, in many cases, interrogate without eclipsing. In this latter case, An must be expressed, as An ṗóṙṙa? But when it eclipses, it interrogates at the same time, and in performing this double function it annihilates itself, so to speak. Hence, instead of An ꝺ-tuiġeann tú? An n-oiann tú? We say ꝺ-tuiġeann tú? n-oiann tu? After Aġuṙ, aċt, etc., however, An is often heard: Aġuṙ An ꝺ-tuiġeann tú? or more usually, Aġuṙ a' ꝺ-tuiġeann tu?

(*b*) In the perfect tense An cannot eclipse because ṅo comes between it and the verb; hence aspiration is usual in this tense, as,

An ḃuail tú é?	Did you beat him?
An ċait tu ꝺo ṗíopa?	Did you smoke your pipe?
An ꝺíol tú ꝺo ḃo?	Did you sell your cow?

(*c*) The exceptions to this rule (*b*) are confined principally to ṫainic, ṫuġ, and ċualaiꝺ. These can either have their initials eclipsed or aspirated.

ꝺ-ṫainic ṙe?	An ṫainic ṙe?	Did he come?
ꝺ-ṫuġ ṙe?	An ṫuġ ṙe?	Did he give?
Ġ-cualaiꝺ ṙe?	An ċualaiꝺ ṙe?	Did he hear?

(*d*) In the absence of ṅo the particle An regains its eclipsing power. But it rarely occurs that ṅo neglects its post. Once in a while, however, it may be said to take a holiday, as in the case of ṙuaiṙ and ṙaċaiꝺ, before which it never appears. Hence, when ṅo is absent,

and the way open to the interrogative particle an, eclipsis is inevitable.

D-fuaip tú é?	Did you get it?
Agur a' d-fuaip tú é?	And did you get it?
D-facaid tú é?	Did you see him?
Act a' d-facaid tú é?	But did you see him?

N.B.—Deáṁn and dearcaid never take ro, and as a result they never have their initials aspirated except by ní. One would expect, however, that their initials would be eclipsed, but according to modern usage they are not.

Deáṁn tú rin?	Did you do that?
Nach deáṁn tú é?	Did you not do it?
Dearcaid ré ruar?	Did he go up?
Nach dearcaid re ruar?	Did he not go up?

USE OF DO.

(*a*) The sign of the perfect tense active is do. This particle is visibly present before vowels and f. It is invisibly present in other cases; but it is absent before fuaip, facaid, deáṁn and dearcaid. Whether visibly or invisibly present, it has the power of aspirating.

D'ól ré	He drank.	(visibly present.)
D' fág ré	He left.	
Buail ré	He struck.	(invisibly present.)
Róṫ ré	He roasted.	
Fuaip re	He got.	(absent.)

(*b*) In negative, interrogative, and dependent sentences do becomes ro which is always visibly present.

This applies to the perfect tense passive, but no aspiration takes place.

He did not beat	= ní ṙo ḃuaiḋ ṙe	= níoṙ ḃuaiḋ ṙe.
Did he beat?	= an ṙo ḃuaiḋ ṙe?	= aṙ ḃuaiḋ ṙe?
That he beat	= go ṙo ḃuaiḋ ṙe	= gur ḃuaiḋ ṙe?
That he was beaten?	= go ṙo ḃuaileaḋ é	= gur ḃuaileaḋ é.

(*c*) In the other past tenses active, and in the imperfect and conditional passive, ḋo, just as in the perfect tense active, is visibly present before vowels and ḟ, and invisibly present in the other cases. But in negative, interrogative, and dependent sentences ḋo and ṙo are absent.

D'oiainn D'oifiainn D'fhanainn D'fhanfainn	visible	presence of ḋo.
Ḃuailinn Ḃuailfinn Ḃuailti mé Ḃuailfiḋe mé	invisible	
M-buailinn? M-buailfinn?	interrogative	absence of ḋo.
Ní ḃuailinn Ní ḃuailfinn	negative	
Go m-buailinn Go m-buailfinn	dependent	

Adverbs.

(*a*) Adverbs of manner are formed from adjectives by prefixing the particle go, which requires n when the adjective begins with a vowel.

Geal, bright	Go geal, brightly.
milis, sweet	Go milis, sweetly.
maith, good	Go maith, well.
olc, bad	Go h-olc, badly.

(*b*) All other adverbs are either simple or compound. The compound adverbs are usually formed by a preposition and a noun, as, air g-cúl, behind, literally, *on back*. Sometimes they are made up of an adjective and a noun, as corr uair, occasionally, literally, *odd hour*. The following are the principal adverbs in use at the present day:—

Anois, now	Arís, again.
Ann sin, then	A g-coimhnidhe, always.
Ann so, ann seo, here	A dh-fad, dh-fad, long, far.
Ann sud, yonder	Go fóill, still, yet.
Nuair, when	Fa dheireadh } at last.
Ca n-uair, ca nuair? } when?	Sa deireadh }
Ca h-uair? }	A roimhe, before, already.
Ca n-áit? ca h-áit? where?	A hemisín, already, so soon.
Ca h-ar? whence?	Roimhe sé, already.
Go d-tí, till, until	A n-áirde, up, on high.
Corr uair, occasionally	Air deireadh, last, behind.
A d-toiseach, in front	Na baile, a baile, home(wards).
Mar, because, as	Air g-cúl, back, backwards.
Mar g-ceudna, in like manner	Gan mhuill, by and by.
Mar sin de, so that	Go leór, enough.
Air d-tús }	Go léir, entirely.
Ceud uair } first, at first	Go h-iomlan, entirely.
A ceud uair }	Go díreach,* indeed, just.
Fad ó foin, long ago	Go deimhdhe,* indeed, truly, really.
Air ais, back, again	Leóga,* indeed, really.
Ca meud? }	Fosta, also.
Ca mheud? } How many?	Air an adhbar sin, hence.

* Go déimhin is often met with in books.

Go de 'n méid? how much?
Air fad, entirely
Maire, "musha," well
Amach, out (motion)
Amuigh, out, outside
Astach, in (motion)
Astuigh, in, inside

Air n-dóigh, of course.
Riamh, ever.
A choidche
Go deó
Go bráth
} for ever, ever.
Tharna, across, over.

Adverbial Phrases.

Air maidin	In the morning.
Air maidin aniú	This morning.
Air maidin ané	Yesterday morning.
Air maidin amárach	To-morrow morning.
San tráthnóna	In the evening.
Tráthnóna ané	Yesterday evening.
Lá thar na márach.	Next day.
Air aimsir lae	At the break of day.
Aniú; ané	To-day; yesterday.
Amárach	To-morrow.
Anocht, aréir	To-night; Last night.
San oidche amárach	To-morrow night.
Aréigh ané	Ere yesterday.
Aréigh réir	Ere last night.
A nóirthi	After to-morrow.
San oidche nóirthi	The night after to-morrow night.
An t-seachtmain rugainn*	Next week.
An mí rugainn*	Next month.
An bliadain rugainn*	Next year.
An t-seachtmain ro chaith*	Last week.
An mí ro chaith*	Last month.

* These are not always adverbial phrases—rugainn = ro chugainn.

A nuiṗiṫ ; a m-bliaḋna	Last year ; this year.
An bliaḋain ro ċaṗt	Last year.
Dia Luain	On Monday.
Dia Máiṗt	On Tuesday.
Dia Ceuḋaoine	On Wednesday.
Dia Aṗḋaoin	On Thursday.
Dia h-Aoine	On Friday.
Dia Saṫaiṗn	On Saturday.
Dia Doṁnaiġ	On Sunday.
Aiṗ maiḋin Dia Doṁnaiġ	On Sunday morning.
Tṗaṫnóna Dia Doṁnaiġ	On Sunday evening.

UP AND DOWN.

ṗuaṗ = up *i.e.* motion upwards from this point.
aníoṗ = up „ motion from below to this point.
ḟuaṗ = up „ rest above this point.
aḃuṗ = up „ rest at this point.
ṗíoṗ = down „ motion downwards from this point.
ḟíoṗ = down „ rest below this point.
anuaṗ = down „ motion from above to this point.
aḃuṗ = down „ rest at this point.

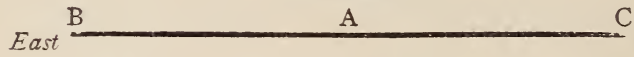
Examples.

A to B :	I'll throw it down	Caiṫṗiḋ me ṗíoṗ é.
„	Is it down yet?	Ḃ-ṗuil ṗe ṗíoṗ go ṗoil?
„	Throw it up	Caiṫ aníoṗ é.
„	It is up now	Tá ṗe aḃuṗ anoiṗ.
B to A :	I'll throw it up	Caiṫṗiḋ me ṗuaṗ é.
„	Is it up yet?	Ḃ-ṗuil ṗe ḟuaṗ go ṗoil?
„	Throw it down	Caiṫ anuaṗ é.
„	It is down now	Tá ṗe aḃuṗ anoiṗ.

OVER.

ɾíaɲ = over *i.e.* motion Westward from this point.
aníaɲ = over „ motion from West to this point.
ɾoiɲ = over „ motion Eastward from this point.
anoiɲ = over „ motion from East to this point.
ɾíaɲ = over „ rest at the West.
Ṡoiɲ = over „ rest at the East.
Ábuɾ = over „ rest at this point.

Examples.



A to C :	I'll throw over the stone	Caiṫɾiú me ɾíaɲ an ċloċ.
„	Is it over yet?	Ú-ɾuil ɾe ɾíaɲ go ɾóil?
„	Throw it over again	Caiṫ aníaɲ aiɲ aiɾ é.
„	Good, it is over now	Maiṫ ṫu, tá ɾe ábuɾ anoiɾ.
A to B :	I'll throw over the stone	Caiṫɾiú me ɾoiɲ an ċloċ.
„	Is it over yet?	Ú-ɾuil ɾe ɾoiɲ go ɾóil?
„	Throw it over again	Caiṫ anoiɲ aiɲíɾṫ é.
„	Good, it is over now	Maiṫ ṫu, tá ɾe ábuɾ anoiɾ.

Simple Prepositions.

a, ann, annɾ, in.	gan, without.
ag, aiġ, at.	go, to.
anɾoiɲ, to.	iaɲ, after.
aɾ, out of, from.	idiɲ, between.
de, from, off, of.	le, leiɾ, with.
do, to.	maɲ, as like.
ɾaiḋ, through.	o, from.
ɾud, through, about.	roiṁe, before.
ɾa, about.	ṫaɲ, over, across.
ɾaoi, under	ṫaiṫ, round.
aɲ, aiɲ, on.	ṫɾe, through.

Compound Prepositions.

Compound prepositions are made up of a simple preposition and a noun. Hence, when another noun comes immediately after, it can only be governed in the genitive. The following are the most important compound prepositions in the language:—

A b-fiadhnuise, before, under the eye (of).
A láthair, before, in the presence (of).
Os coinne, before, opposite, under the eyes (of).
A b-fochair, with, in the company (of).
A n-diaidh, after, in the wake (of).
A n-aghaidh, against; a gcúl, behind.
Air son, for the sake (of); ameasg, amidst.
Mar gheall air, for the sake of (governs dative).
A choir; coir, beside, at the foot (of).
A n-aice, naice, next to, close to, on the side (of).
Fa dtaobh de, about, concerning (govs. dat.).
Fa choinne; fa dhéin, for.
Go dtí, to, as far as, till (govs. dat.).
Os cionn, over, above; do reir, according to.
A n-éadan, a n-éadan, against.
A gcuideachta, in the company (of).
A gcuideachta le, along with (govs. dat.).

The Preposition, a, ann, anns.

The English "in" must be rendered as follows:—

(1) A before an indefinite noun, or before the name of a town or country.

In Derry	A n-Doire.
In Scotland	A n-Albain.
In a country	A d-tír.

(2) By ann before a possessive pronoun, or a Christian name—

In my own country	Ann mo ṫír féin.
There is strength in Mary	Ta bríġ ann Máire.

(3) By annsa when the article follows—

In the country	Annsa an tír.
In this country	Annsa an tír so.

The Preposition "For."

(1) When "for" signifies "to fetch," "to bring," it is rendered by fa ċoinne or fa ḋéin—

He went for the cow	Ċuaiḋ sé fa ċoinne na bó.
He went for them	Ċuaiḋ se fa na g-coinne.

(2) When "for" means "to oblige" it is rendered by do—

Do this for me	Ḋeán so dam.
Dance for us	Ḋeán damsa dúinn.
Here is a penny for you	So pingin duit.

(3) In connection with price it must be rendered by ar—

He paid a penny for it	Ċuig sé pingin air.
Give him a penny for it	Tabair pingin dó air.

The Preposition "Of."

(*a*) When "of" is identical with the English possessive case we must use the genitive in Irish.

The son of Mary (Mary's son)	Mac Máire.
The son of the man (the man's son)	Mac an fir.
The head of a man (a man's head)	Ceann fir.
The side of a hill (a hill's side)	Taoḃ cnuic.

(*b*) When "of" follows a numeral, or the equivalent of a numeral, de and a dative must be used.

One of the cows	Ceann de na ba.
A man of the tribe	Fear de 'n treabh.
The first day of the month	An ceud lá de 'n mhí.
Five of the cows	Cúig cinn de na ba.
A boatful of honey	Lán-báid de mhil.

(*c*) When "of" follows a numeral and governs a personal pronoun we must use ag, which unites with the pronoun.

One of us, two of us	Duine againn, beirt againn.
One of you, two of them	Duine agaibh, beirt aca.
One of these	Duine aca seo.

(*d*) Numerals that cannot stand alone take ceann (head) in connection with irrational animals and things, or claigeann (skull) in connection with persons.

Five of them (*i.e.*, cows)	Cúig cinn aca; cuigear aca.
Five of them (*i.e.*, men)	Cúig claigne aca; cuigear aca.

(*e*) When "of" follows "which?" we must use de and a dative in the case of nouns and ag in the case of pronouns.

Which of the women?	Ceoca de na mna?
Which of the cows?	Ceoca de na ba?
Which of us?	Ceoca againn?

Functions of Prepositions.

(*a*) Simple prepositions govern the dative case, compound ones govern the genitive.

Tá feur ag an bhuin	The cow has hay.
Tá se os cionn do chinn	It is above your head.

(*b*) When a simple preposition comes beside a noun it has the power of aspirating. But gó, le, as, ar cause no initial change, while a eclipses.

Tá re air capall	He is on a horse.
Fríd baile fagainne	Through our town.
Tar caoran na g-cloc	Over the rocky moorland.
Go baile fagainne	To our town.
Aig carraic	At a rock.
A m-Baile Cliat	In Dublin.

☞ When gan performs the function of a preposition it does not aspirate, but when it acts as prefix it aspirates. Mar causes no initial change in nouns except in prepositional locutions, but it causes aspiration in verbs—the word tá excepted. When idir means "between," it causes no initial change, but when it means "both" or "including" it aspirates.

Fear gan caora	A man without a sheep.
Fear gan mhunadh	An unmannerly man.
Mar fear maith	Like a good man.
Mar gheall air an ór	For the sake of the gold.
Mar buailim	As I strike.
Tá tu mar tá tú	You are as you are.
Idir capall agus asal	Between a horse and an ass.
Idir chapaill agus asail	Including horses and asses.

Compound Prepositional Pronouns.

As personal pronouns are defective in the genitive, they cannot be governed in that case by a compound preposition. Thus, "above John" = or cionn Seagain, literally, "over the head *of John*." But "above me" = or mo chionn, literally, "over *my* head." In other words, the *possessive adjective* takes the place of the

personal pronoun. Most of the compound prepositions combine in this manner with the possessive adjectives. The following are important examples:—

os mo ċoinne (IN MY PRESENCE).

SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
Or mo ċoinne, in my presence.	Or ar g-coinne, in our presence.
Or do ċoinne, in thy presence.	Or bur g-coinne, in your presence.
Or a ċoinne, in his presence.	Or a g-coinne, in their presence.
Or a coinne, in her presence.	

os mo ċionn.

Or mo ċionn (above me)	Or ar g-cionn.
Or do ċionn	Or bur g-cionn.
Or a ċionn, or a cionn	Or a g-cionn.

fa mo ċoinne.

Fa mo ċoinne (for me)	Fa nar g-coinne.
Fa do ċoinne	Fa bur g-coinne.
Fa na ċoinne, etc.	Fa na g-coinne.

fa mo ḋéin.

Fa mo ḋéin (for me)	Fa nar n-déin.
Fa do ḋéin	Fa bur n-déin.
Fa na ḋéin, etc.	Fa na n-déin.

ann m' aġaiḋ.

Ann m' aġaiḋ (against me)	Ann ar n-aġaiḋ.
Ann d' aġaiḋ	Ann bur n-aġaiḋ.
Na aġaiḋ, na h-aġaiḋ	Na n-aġaiḋ.

Ann mo dhiaidh.

Ann mo dhiaidh (after me)	Ann ar n-dtiaidh.
Ann do dhiaidh	Ann bhur n-dtiaidh.
Na dhiaidh, etc.	Na n-dtiaidh.

Usually.

mo dhiaidh (after me)	Ar n-dtiaidh.
Do dhiaidh	Bhur n-dtiaidh.
Na dhiaidh, na diaidh	Na n-dtiaidh.

The Conjunctions.

Acht (*pr.* ach) but, only*	Iona, na, than.
Agus, and	Muna } if...not, unless.
Ma, da, if	Mur }
Go, that	O } as, since
Ma tá go, yet	O tharla }
De bhrigh go, inasmuch as	No, na, for, because.
Do chum go, in order that	Sul, before.
Ionnus go, so that	Gidh, although.

N.B.—Ma is used with the indicative mood and aspirates the initial of the verb. Da is used with the conditional mood only, and always expresses a condition. It eclipses the initial of the verb, as, da m-beidheadh airgead agam cheannochainn capall, if I had (*lit.* if I would have) money I would buy a horse. Da d-t'ocfa anocht fachainn leat, if you came (*i.e.*, if you should or would come) to-night I would go with you. In this last example, we see that *came* is misleading. It might be taken for the imperfect or simple past,

* I have only a penny = ni fuil agam acht pingin.

but it conveys nothing in this example but the conditional mood. To express a condition, therefore, with ᴅᴀ, the conditional mood must be used. Of course we can express a condition also with ᴍᴀ, as, ᴍᴀ ᴛɪɢ ʀé ᴀnoct cuɪɳʀeᴀɾ ᴀɪɳ ʃɪuᴅᴀl ᴛú, if he *should* come to-night you will be sent away.

Interjections.

Á! or O! Aṁaɾc!	Oh! or O! Look!
Ḃuḃḃó! ʃaɾaoɳ!	Fie! Alas!
Uċ! or oċ! Oċon!	Oh! Alas!

Mo ċɳeaċ naċ ḃ-ʀuɪl ɾlaᴛ aɢam!	Would that I had a rod!
Mo ċɳeaċ ɢan ɾlaᴛ aɢam!	
Iɾ ᴛɳuaɢ naċ ḃ-ʀuɪl ɾlaᴛ aɢam!	
Iɾ ᴛɳuaɢ ɢan ɾlaᴛ aɢam!	
Iɾ maɪɳɢ naċ ḃ-ʀuɪl ɾlaᴛ aɢam!	
Iɾ maɪɳɢ ɢan ɾlaᴛ aɢam!	

Endearing Expressions.

Á ᴛaɪɾɢe!	My treasure! my dear!
Á ᴛaɪɾɢe mo ċɳoɪᴅe!	O treasure of my heart!
Á ɳúɳ!	My secret! my treasure!
Á ɳúɳ mo ċɳoɪᴅe!	Secret of my heart! Dearest!
Á ɾᴛóɳ!	My store! Asthore!
Á ɾᴛóɳ mo ċɳoɪᴅe!	O jewel of my heart!
Á ċuɪɳle!	O vein! my vein! my dear!
Á ċuɪɳle mo ċɳoɪᴅe!	Vein of my heart!
Á ɢɳaᴅ!	My love! O love!
Á ɢɳaᴅ mo ċɳoɪᴅe!	O love of my heart!
ɢɳaᴅ mo ċɳoɪᴅe ᴛú!	You are the love of my heart!
A ṁuɪɳɳín!	My darling!
Cúɳam mo ċɳoɪᴅe!	Care of my heart!
Mo ċɳoɪᴅe aɾᴛuɪɢ ɪonnaᴛ!	My heart within thee!
M' anam aɾᴛuɪɢ ɪonnaᴛ!	My soul within thee!

Prefixes.

An, *not*, as, eolach, skilled, aineolach, unskilled.
Comh, *together*, ceangal, a tie, comhceangal a union.
Deagh, *good*, as, deaghroideach, kind-hearted.
Droch, *bad*, as, drochmheas, contempt.
Do, *difficult*, as, dodheanta, difficult to be done.
In, *fit*, as, indeanta, fit to be done.
So, *easy*, as, sodheanta, easy to be done.
Mi, *ill*, as, mi-adh, ill-luck.
Neamh, *not*, as, neamhcomhthrom, uneven

Affixes.

Ach, *full of*, as, briathrach, full of words, talkative.
Acht, *ness*, as, milreacht, sweetness.
Ar, *ness*, as, maitheas, goodness.
Amhail, *like*, as, fearamhail, manly.
An, *small*, as, aradan, a hillock.
In, *small*, as, coirin, a little foot.
Og, *small*, peirteog, a little serpent, *i.e.*, a worm.
Ach, *abounding in*, as, coillteach, abounding in woods.
Lach, *abounding in*, muclach, a piggery.
Mar, *full of*, as, ceolmhar, full of music.

Replying—Yes, No.

In replying to questions, (1) the verb and tense used in the question must be repeated in the reply, (2) the subject (except when it is contained in the verb) must be omitted.

An ól tú? D' ol	Did you drink? I did.
An ól Máire? Nior ól	Did Mary drink? No.
N-olann tu? Olaim	Do you drink? Yes.
Dh-fuil se agat? Tá	Have you it? I have.
Raibh tu tinn? Bí	Were you sick? I was.
Raibh ocras ort? Ní raibh	Were you hungry? No, I was not.

N.B.—Notice the double reply in the English "Yes, I am," "No, I am not," etc. Both count as one in Irish.

Replying with 1S.

(*a*) In negative answers the verb is omitted and the subject is expressed, while in affirmative answers the verb and subject are expressed.

An tú Seaġan? Ní mé	Are you John? No.
An tú Séamur? Ir me	Are you James? Yes.

(*b*) When an adjective expresses inherent quality it must appear in the reply. [See Inherent quality and Species.]

Nach maith é? Ir maith.	Isn't it good? It is.
Nach mór an fear é? Ir mór	Isn't he a big man? He is.

(*c*) Seadh (pr. *shăh*) and ní fheadh (ní *hăh*) are never used except in reply to an interrogation made with the verb ir, and then only when the predicate of the question is indefinite.

Is it a stone? Yes	An cloch é? Seadh.
Is that a cow? No	An bó sin? Ní feadh.

Replying to "Who?" "What?"

(*a*) In answer to "who?" "what?" the subject alone is expressed, and if the subject is a pronoun it will be emphatic.

Who did that? I did	Cé rinne sin? Mise.
Who did that? Mary did	Cé rinne sin? Máire.
What is that? A white cat	Ġo dé sin? Cat bán.

(*b*) In such cases tá is often used impersonally in the reply.

Who did that? I did	Cé rinne sin? Tá mise.
Who did that? Mary	Cé rinne sin? Tá Máire.

Idiomatic and Defective Verbs.

Tá fios agam, I KNOW.

"I know" is expressed in Irish by tá a fios agam = literally, Its knowledge is at me, *i.e.*, I have its knowledge. The possessive a is usually omitted.

Present Tá fios agam; ní fuil fios agam.
Imper. Bíodh fios agam; ní bíodh fios agam.
Perfect Bí fios agam; ní raib fios agam.
Future Béid fios agam; ní béid fios agam.
Condit. Bhéidheadh fios agam; ní bhéidheadh fios agam.
Imper. Bídéadh fios agat; bídeadh fios agaibh.
Infin. Fios a beith agam; gan fios a beith agam.

Tá fios agam	*pronounced*	Tás agam.
Bíodh fios agam	„	Bíwus agam.
Bí fios agam	„	Bí sagam.
Béid fios agam	„	Beidis agam.

Tig liom,* I CAN.

Present Tig liom; ní tig liom; o-tig liom?
Imper. Tigeadh liom; ní tigeadh liom.
Perfect Tainic liom; níor tainic liom.
Future Tiocfaidh liom; ní tiocfaidh liom.
Condit. Tiocfadh liom; ní tiocfadh liom.

Is féidir liom, I CAN.

PRESENT TENSE.

Affirm. Is féidir liom, leat, etc Lit., It is possible with me.
Negat. Ní féidir liom.
Interrog. An féidir liom?

* Literally, It comes with me.

PAST TENSE.

Affirm. Dud féidir liom, I could.
Negat. Níorb féidir liom.
Interrog. Arb féidir liom?

☞ D' féidir = Perhaps.

Geibim bás, I DIE.

Future Geobaid me bár, I shall die.
Perfect Fuair re bár, he died. Lit., He found death.
Infinitive Bár a fagail or bár fagail.
Participle As fagail báir or fagail báir.

These are the more important parts.

caithfid me, I MUST.

ACTIVE VOICE.

Future Caithfid me, I must, *i.e.*, I shall have to.
Imper. Chaithinn, I had to.
Condit. Chaithfinn, I would have to.
Perfect Chaith me,* I had to.

PASSIVE VOICE—*Impersonally.*

Future Caithfear, It is necessary (*Fr. Il faut.*)
Imper. Chaithti, It was necessary.
Condit. Chaithfide, It would be necessary.
Perfect Chaitheadh, It was necessary.

is maith liom, I LIKE

PRESENT TENSE.

Affirm. Is maith liom, is maith leat, etc.
Negat. Ní maith liom ní maith leat, etc.
Interrog. An maith leat? etc.

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* D'éigean dam is more usual.

CONDITIONAL MOOD.

Affirm. Dubh mhaith liom, dubh mhaith leat, etc., I *would* like, etc.

Negat. Nior mhaith liom, nior mhaith leat, etc.

Interrog. An mhaith leat? etc.

N.B.—In "dubh mhaith liom," "dubh" is perfect tense, but the whole expression has, idiomatically, the force of a conditional mood.

Like this verb are :—

Is mian liom	I desire.
Is ail liom	I like.
Is feárr liom	I prefer.
Is cóir dam	I should.
Is ceart dam	I ought.
Is éigean dam	I must.

Prepositional Verbs.

Some verbs require the aid of a preposition to express a secondary meaning when a dative case follows. In English the preposition is often understood. The following are examples :—

labhraim + ar	=	I tell.
Deirim + le	=	I tell.
Innirim + do	=	I tell.
Fiafhruighim + de	=	I ask.

Examples.

D' iarr se orm a theacht	He told me to come.
D' iarr se air Máire a dul	He told Mary to go.
Dúbairt se liom a theacht	He told me to come.
D' innis se sgeul dam	He told me a story.
D' fiafhruigh sé díom	He asked of me.

CASTAR ORM, I MEET.

Present Cartar orm, cartar ort, etc. I meet.
Imperf. Ċairtí orm, ċairtí ort, etc. I used to meet.
Perfect Carad orm, carad ort, etc. I met.
Condit. Ċarfaiḋe orm, etc. I would meet.
Infin. A ċarad orm or a cartal orm, to meet me.
Participle and *Imperative:* Wanting.

N.B.—Caraim, literally means *I twist*, and hence, *I turn* or *meet.* The person met is always the subject in Irish.

Hugh met James	Carad Séamus air Aoḋ.
Hugh met me	Carad me air Aoḋ.
I met Hugh	Carad Aoḋ orm.
I met him	Carad orm é.

Internal or Inherent Quality.

(*a*) When, in English, the verb "to be" is immediately followed by an indefinite noun expressing inherent quality ta must be used idiomatically.

He is a man	Tá se na ḟear.
He is a priest	Tá se na ḟaġart.

(*b*) When the verb "to be" is immediately followed by a present participle expressing *state* rather than *action*, the participle becomes a verbal noun, and ta is used as in (*a*).

He is sleeping	Tá se na ċodlaḋ.
He is sitting	Tá se na ḟuiḋe.
He is standing	Tá se na ḟearaḋ.
He is lying	Tá se na luiġe.
But, He is fighting	Tá se ag troid.

N.B.—He is up (*i.e.*, he is not in bed)=ta se na ḟuiḋe, lit., He is in his sitting (posture).

Is cuma liom.

Cuma is a noun, and means *shape* or *appearance*, and as a thing which has but the appearance of the reality is only superficial, the word has come to mean *indifference*. Hence, Is cuma le Seagan = It is appearance or indifference with John, *i.e.*, John is indifferent, John does not care, John does not care a straw, etc. Nach cuma le Seagan = "Sure" John does not care! Nach here is the interrogative particle, but the sentence is usually an exclamation.

Is cuma liom	I *don't* care.
Is cuma leat	You *don't* care.
Is cuma leis	He *doesn't* care.
Is cuma leithe	She *doesn't* care.
Is cuma le Nóra	Nora *doesn't* care.
Nach cuma liom!	"Sure" I *don't* care.

N.B.—Ni mise liom, has the same meaning as, Is cuma liom.

☞ Ni fuil binn agam ort = I don't care a straw for you, *i.e.*, I defy you.

Is cuma dam.

This idiom expresses indifference arising from disappointment, inability to act, or want of connection. Thus, Is cuma dam means, I *need not* care, I *need not* trouble, I *need not* be sorry, or, it is no affair of mine. Nach cuma dam! means, "sure" I *need not* care! What *need* I care! "Sure" it is no affair of mine!

Is cuma dam	I *need not* care.
Is cuma duit	You *need not* care.
Is cuma do Mháire	Mary *need not* care.
Nach cuma duit!	Sure you *need not* care.
Nach cuma dúinn!	Sure it is no affair of ours!

N.B.—Ni mise dam has the same meaning as Is cuma dam.

Mental and Physical Sensations.

(*a*) When an English adjective has no primary equivalent in Irish, an idiom must be used. Tinn, for example, is a primary adjective meaning *sick*. Without using any idiom, therefore, we can say, Tá me tinn, I am sick. But, to translate, "I am hungry," we cannot proceed in the same way, as we have no primary word in Irish for "hungry." We are therefore compelled to say "Hunger is on me," Tá ocras orm. The following are important examples :—

I am hungry	Tá ocras orm.
I am ashamed	Tá náire orm.
I am afraid	Tá eagla orm.
I am glad	Tá luthgair orm.
I am angry	Tá fearg orm.
I am thirsty	Tá tart orm.
I am proud	tá bród orm.
I am sleepy	Tá codladh orm.

(*b*) The word for "very" can only stand before an adjective as, I am very sick = Tá me an-tinn. As long, therefore, as we have primary adjectives we can use an, very; but to translate "I am very hungry," "I am very much ashamed," etc., an cannot be used, and hence we must say *Great hunger* is on me, *great shame* is on me, etc.

I am very hungry	Tá ocras mor orm.
I am very much ashamed	Tá náire mhor orm.
I am very much afraid	Tá eagla mhor orm.
I am very glad	Tá luthgair mhor orm.
I am very angry	Tá fearg mhor orm.
I am very thirsty	Tá tart mor orm.
I am very proud	Tá bród mór orm.
I am very sleepy	Tá codladh mór orm.

(*c*) It is quite common, however, to use an before the noun, just as if it were an adjective. Hence, as common usage must be respected, the following are quite good :—

I am very hungry	Tá an-ocrar orm.
I am very much afraid	Tá an-eagla orm.
I am very glad	Tá an-lúcháir orm.
I am very sleepy	Tá an-codlad orm.

(*d*) This scarcity of primary adjectives is felt only in connection with mental and physical sensations. The idiom seems to have been fashionable for we find even the primary adjectives turned into nouns to comply with this mode of expression; so that when there is a primary adjective in Irish, we may translate in the ordinary way, or we may use the idiom :

I am sick = Tá me tinn or Tá tinneas orm.
I am cold = Tá me fuar or Tá fuacht orm.

(*e*) The same idiom is used when the sensation is expressed in English by "have" and a noun. In this case the sensation is of a special kind, *e.g.*, a malady, in which case the article will be used in Irish.

I have a cold	Tá an slaghdan orm.
I have a toothache	Tá an déidead orm.
I have the fever	Tá an fiabhras orm.
I have the measles	Tá an bhruitneac orm.

Motion to a Place.

(*a*) Motion to a place is expressed by ann or na. These are contracted forms of the preposition ann or a and the article an. Ann must be used before masculine nouns beginning with a vowel, d, t, or f. In

all other cases na must be used. The noun is affected as follows :—(1) It must be in the genitive case; (2) if it is masculine its initial must be aspirated—except in the case of d, t, s (s being eclipsed); (3) if it is a feminine noun beginning with a vowel h is prefixed.

He went to the fair	Chuaidh sé ann aonaigh.
He went to the door	Chuaidh sé ann doruis.
He went to the well	Chuaidh sé ann tobair.
He went to the brook	Chuaidh sé ann t-sruthain.
He went to the hill	Chuaidh sé na cnuic.
He went to the bog	Chuaidh sé na portaigh.
He went to the park	Chuaidh sé na páirce.
He went to the forge	Chuaidh sé na ceárta.
He went to the street	Chuaidh sé na sráide.
He went to the cliff	Chuaidh sé na h-aille.
He went to the river	Chuaidh se na h-abha.
He went (to the) home	Chuaidh se na baile.

N.B.—Motion to towns and islands seems to be the only exception. Hence, although we say, ag dul na baile-mhóir, going to the town, ag dul na Fraince, going to France, ag dul ann oileain or ag dul na h-inse, going to the island, we never say, ag dul ann Doire, going to Derry, ag dul na Corcaighe, going to Cork, ag dul na h-Alban, etc. In these cases go must be used. This idiom is sometimes extended to persons when we go to them for professional aid, *e.g.*, He went to the doctor = Chuaidh se ann doctuir, He went to the priest = Chuaidh se ann t-sagairt. Remark also that, *to heaven* = na flaithis, but *to hell* = go h-ifrionn.

Ownership.

Ownership of some *definite* thing is expressed by the preposition le and the verb is—present and past time only.

The cow is mine
The cow belongs to me
I own *the* cow
} Is liom an bó.

The cat is Mary's
The cat belongs to Mary
Mary owns *the* cat
} Is le Máire an cat.

The dog was John's Bud le Seagan an madadh.

N.B.—When the thing owned is *indefinite*, it must be considered as simple possession, for the idiom cannot be used: Hence, I own a house = I have a house = Tá teach agam. Although we say in English *I own a cow*, there would not be much meaning in, *a cow is mine.* When ownership is connected with future time, it is often rendered by the relative a and the two verbs is and tá, as, The house will be mine = Is agamsa a bhéidheas an teach. But the more usual way is by simply using tá and ag, as, Bhéidh an teach agus an talamh aig Séamus go fóill = James will have the house and the land yet, *i.e.* The house and the land will be James's yet.

To be in Debt.

James owes the man a hundred pounds, would be in Irish, *The man has a hundred pounds on James* = Tá céad punta aig an fear air Séamus.

Some or Any.

(1) "Some" is rendered in Irish by such expressive words as, bṙaon, a drop—used for liquids; dóṙnan, a fistful—used for hay, straw, corn, potatoes, etc.; gṙainín, a grain—used for meal, flour, tea, etc.; piġin, a penny—used for money. All these govern the genitive.

Tá bṙaon bainne agam	I have some milk.
Tá dóṙnan féiṙ agam	I have some hay.
Tá gṙainín ṙiúcṙa agam	I have some sugar.
Tá piġin airġid agam	I have some money.
Tá piġin aige	He has some (money).

(2) "Some of" followed by a noun is rendered by cuid de followed by a dative of the noun.

Cuid de na fir	Some of the men.
Cuid de na capaill	Some of the horses.
Cuid de 'n fheur	Some of the hay.
Cuid de 'n airġead	Some of the money.
Cuid de 'n arán	Some of the bread.
Cuid de 'n bainne	Some of the milk.

(3) "Some of" followed by a pronoun in the *singular* number is rendered by cuid de; followed by a pronoun in the plural number it is rendered by cuid ag.

Tá cuid de maiṫ	Some of it is good.
Tá cuid de ṙin olc	Some of that is bad.
Tá cuid againn ṙgṙiosta	Some of us are ruined.
Tá cuid aca millte	Some of them are spoiled.
Tá cuid aca ṙin olc	Some of those are bad.

(4) "Any" is rendered by the article an followed by an aspirated noun in the nominative singular, in connection with countable things; by an ṗíġin, in

connection with money; by an ġrainín, in connection with hay, straw, corn, tea, sugar, etc.; by an ġreim (the bite), for bread, butter, beef, etc.; and by an ḋeor (drop) for liquids. When a noun comes after an ṗíġin, an ġrainín, etc., it will, of course, be in the genitive.

Ḃ-ṗuil an ċapall agat?	Have you any horses?
Ní ṗuil an ċeann agam	I have not any.
Ḃ-ṗuil an ṗíġin airgid agat?	Have you any money?
Ní ṗuil an ṗíġin agam	I have not any.
Ḃ-ṗuil an ġrainín féir agat?	Have you any hay?
Ní ṗuil an ġrainín agam	I have not any.
Ḃ-ṗuil an ġreim aráin agat?	Have you any bread?
Ní ṗuil an ġreim agam	I have not any.
Ḃ-ṗuil an ḋeór ṗíona agat?	Have you any wine?
Ní ṗuil an ḋeór agam	I have not any.

(5) "Any of" followed by a noun is rendered by, An ḋuine ḋe, an ċeann ḋe, an ġreim ḋe, an ḋeór ḋé, an ġrainn ḋe, etc., followed by the dative of the noun. When "any of" is followed by a *plural* pronoun ḋe becomes ag.

Ḃ-ṗuil an ḋuine ḋe na ṗir ann ṡo?	Are any of the men here?
Ní ṗuil an ḋuine aca ann ṡo	None of them are here.
Ḃ-ṗuil an ċeann ḋe na ḃa ann ṡo?	Are any of the cows here?
Ní ṗuil an ċeann aca ann ṡo	None of them are here.
Ḃ-ṗuil an ġreim ḋe 'n arán agat?	Have you any of the bread?
Ní ṗuil an ġreim ḋe agam	I have none of it.

(6) "Any" is also rendered by air ḃiṫ, which is always placed *after* the noun, but it is only used to translate "any" followed by a noun.

Ḃ-ṗuil ḃa air ḃiṫ agat?	Have you any cows?
Ní ṗuil airgead air ḃiṫ agam	I have not any money.
Ḃ-ṗuil caoirriġ air ḃiṫ agat?	Have you any sheep?

☞ Note the difference in the following :—

ní fuil an ceann agam	I have not any (cows).
ní fuil ceann agam	I have not a single one.
ní fuil an airgid agam	I have not any (money).
ní fuil airgid agam	I have not a cent.
ní fuil an gcaoim agam	I have not any (cheese).
ní fuil gcaoim agam	I have not a taste.
tá cuid beag agam	I have *a* little.
tá beagán agam	I have little (*i.e.*, scarcely any).

Descriptions.

Ordinary descriptions may be rendered still more descriptive, idiomatically. Thus, "He was eating," in the ordinary way is, bí sé ag ithe, but idiomatically it is, is amhlaidh a bí sé agus é ag ithe = *It is the manner in which he was and he eating.*

Other examples are turned in the same way : John was sitting on a stool = *It is the manner in which John was and he sitting on a stool* = is amhlaidh a bí Seagan agus é na shuidhe air stól.

It so happened that when the doctor arrived the poor fellow was dying = *It is the manner in which the poor fellow was when the doctor arrived and he dying* = is amhlaidh a bí an duine bocht nuair a tánaic an dochtuir agus é ag fagáil báis.

John was beating James = (1) *It is the manner in which John was and he beating James* = is amhlaidh a bí Seagan agus é ag bualad Séamuis ; (2) *It is the manner in which James was and John beating him* = is amhlaidh a bí Séamus agus Seagan da bualad.

The king will come seated on a golden chair = *It is the manner in which the king will come and he sitting on a chair of gold* = Is amhlaidh a dtiocfar an rígh agus é na fuighe air cathair óir.

Important Idioms.

Ní raibh neart agam air	I could not help it.
Abair leis imeacht leis	Tell him to take to his heels.
Imigh leat! bug leat! Air fiubal leat! fín leat!	Be off! Begone!
Siubail leat, a Mháire!	Come, Mary!
Is fuar liom an lá	I consider the day cold.
Is mór liom an luach	I think the price high.
Go ceann míora	For the space of a month.
A g-ceann míora	In a month's time.
Ní beag liom é	I think it enough.
Ní mór liom é	I don't think it enough.
Tá cupla lá o foin	A few days ago.
Tá cupla bliadain o foin	A few years ago.
Tá náire orm leat	I am ashamed of you.
Tá fuath agam ort	I hate you.
Ní fuil áird agam ort	I don't like you.
Tá se air an sgoil	He is at school.
Tá se air an aonach	He is at the fair.
Tá se air an baile-mór	He is in the town.
Rug se greim cluaire orm	He caught me by the ear.
Rug se greim láimhe orm	He caught me by the hand.
Cuir se an cluicce orm	He won the game on me.
Cuir se an tóir orm	He put me to flight.

Ċuiṁ ṗe an coṗṗ oṁm	He turned the corner on me.
Cuiṁṗiḋ me ṗgilliṅg leaṫ	I'll bet you a shilling.
Cuiṁṗiḋ me ġeall leaṫ ġo, etc.	I'll hoid you that, etc.
Ṁioṁ ċuġ me ṗaiḋeaṁ	I did not notice (perceive).
Ṙinneaḋ an-ṁóṁ ḋé	He got a good reception.
Ní leuṁ ḋaṁ é	I cannot distinguish it.
Ċuġ ṙiaḋ Ṗaḋṗuiċ oṁm	They called me Patrick.
Ọṁoċ ṁunaḋ oṁṫ !	Bad manners to you !
Ọṁoċ ċṙeaċ oṁṫ !	Bad luck to you.
Caoṁ ċeinṫin oṁṫ !	Blast you !
Ḋean ṁo aiṁ ṙġóṁ aiṁ biṫ	Do this at all events.
Ná ḋean ṙin aiṁ ċoṁṁ aiṁ biṫ	Don't do that at all.
Ċuaiḋ ṗe aiṁ an ḋaoṁaiḋ	He got furious.
Séiḋiḋ ṙé aiṁ aġ obair	He dives into his work.
Tá ṗe aġ cuṁ ṫṙom oṁṫa	He is oppressing them.
Tá ṗe aġ cuṁ Tá ṗe aġ cuṁ ṗeaṁṫaine	It rains : It is raining.
Tá ṗe aġ cuṁ ṙneaċṫa	It is snowing.
Tá ṗe aġ cuṁ bṙaṫoġ	It is sleeting.
Tá ṗe aġ caoċaḋ oṁm	He is winking at me.
Ġo ḋe tá oṁṫ ?	What is the matter with you ?
Ġo ḋe tá ḋiṫ oṁṫ ? Ġo ḋe ṫa ann ṫaṁaiṁ oṁṫ ?	What do you want ?
Ḋa ḋeánaḋ le h-olc oṁm	Doing it to vex me.
Tá ṗe aġ leiġint aiṁ Tá ṗe aġ cuṁ a ġ-céill	He is pretending.
Tá ṙí aġ ṙiuḃal leiṫe-ṫéin	She is walking alone.

Sin leiṫṙgeul cam	That is a lame excuse.
Leir rin ċuaiḋ re ar aṁarc	Thereupon it disappeared
Ir mór an gar rin	That is a God-send.
Ní fuil gar a ḃeiṫ ag caint	There is no use in talking!
Ní fuil gar a ḃeiṫ leat	You are a hopeless case.
Ní ḃéiḋinn gaiḃṫe leat	I would not be bothered with you.
Mar ḃéiḋeaḋ cat ann	After the manner of a cat.
Ir fiú piġin ṙgaḋan	A herring is worth a penny.
Ir fiú do ṁaoṫain é	It is worth your trouble.
Ir fiú ór Máire	Mary is worth gold.
Ir fiú Séamur Máire	James is worthy of Mary.
Ir fiú é í	He is worthy of her.
Ir fiú duit ṙeaṙaḋ	*It is worth* your while to stand.
Ní fiú duit ruiḋe	*It is not worth* your while to sit.
Ir fiú fíon a ċeannaċ	*It is worth* while to buy wine.
Ní fiú é a ċeannaċ Ní fiú a ċeannaċ	*It is not worth* buying.
Ir fiú liom ṙeaṙaḋ	*I think it worth* while to stand.
Ní fiú liom ruiḋe	*I don't think it worth* while to sit.
Tá an ceart agat	You are right.
Tá re ag ḃuinṫ féiṙ	He is mowing hay.
Tá re ag ḃuinṫ coiṙce	He is sheering corn.
Tá re ag ḃuinṫ ṗṫéataí	He is digging potatoes.

Tá se ag buinn móna	He is cutting turf.
Na buin leis	Don't meddle with it.
Dar nacán lá*	Every alternate day.
Ú-fuil tú liom no ann m'agaid ?	Are you for or against me?
Tá siad mór le céile	They are on friendly terms.
Bí do chort !	Hold your tongue !
Tá se na chort.	He is holding his tongue
Sgaoil se urcar	He fired a shot (of a gun).
Cáit se urcar	He fired a shot (of a stone).
Sgaoil se le corr-aóna	He fired at a crane.
Ta urcar sa gunna	There is a charge in the gun.
Boc atá ann !	He is a "buck" } *i.e.*, a suspici-
Oganac atá ann !	He is a "lad" } ous character.
O so amac ; nios mó	Henceforth; in future.
Ca tuigeᵗ nac n-ideann tú ?	Why don't you eat ?
Ca tuige sin ?	How is that ?
Ní feárdoe duit sin	You won't be the better of that.
Beirim do dúbhlan	I defy you.
Racaid se a n-eadan go gaobrainᵈ	He will go in spite of you.

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* *i.e.*, Dara ann gac aon lá.

† *i.e.*, Ca tuig é ! How or where understand it.

‡ Literally, He will go in front of your nasal organ.

Air n-dóige	Of course ; "sure."
Air n-dóigi rug re orm	"Sure" he caught me.
Cuir fgeula cuige	Send him word.
Leógá maire ir fíor fin	Indeed that is true.
Leógá tá an ceart agat	Indeed you are telling the truth.
Máige ir mór an bréac e	'Pon my word it is a big trout.
Máige maire tá ré ag cur	"Faith" it is raining.
Tá me comhair a béit cait	I am nearly done for (*i.e.* dead).
Ná bac leir !	Never mind ! just wait !
Íocfaid tura fin	You'll pay the piper for that.
Tá fiad olc, ácht bídead acú !	They are bad, but let them go !
Milleadh é, ácht bídead aige !	It was destroyed, but what about it !
Go m-beannuig Dia duit ! / Go m-beannuig Dia tú !	God bless you ! (salutation).
Slán agat ! (singular) / Slán agaib ! (plural) / Slán leat ! (singular) / Slán lib ! (plural)	Good-bye !
Reply : go d-tí* tú flán ! / Go roimbig Dia tu ! / Go roimbig Dia duit ! / Go roimbig 'n Rig tú !	May God guide you !

* This is either go d-tigid or go d-téid.

Sé do beaṫa ! (singular) Sé bur m-beaṫa ! (plural) Fáilte romaṫ ! (singular) Fáilte romaib ! (plural)	Welcome ! You are welcome !
Céad fáilte romaṫ ; Céad míle fáilte romaṫ !	You are very welcome !
Reply : go raib maiṫ agaṫ	Thank you.
Go dé mar tá tú ? (sing.) Go dé mar tá sib ? (pl.)	How are you ?
Tá me go maiṫ	I am well.
Tá me go ceart	I am quite well.
Tá me go maiṫ, go raib maiṫ agaṫ !	I am well, thank you.

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